

JPRS-UPS-87-037

20 MAY 1987

USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

SPECIAL NOTICE INSIDE

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

SPECIAL NOTICE

Effective 1 June 1987 JPRS reports will have a new cover design and color, and some reports will have a different title and format. Some of the color changes may be implemented earlier if existing supplies of stock are depleted.

The new cover colors will be as follows:

CHINA.....	aqua
EAST EUROPE.....	gold
SOVIET UNION.....	salmon
EAST ASIA.....	yellow
NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA...	blue
LATIN AMERICA.....	pink
WEST EUROPE.....	ivory
AFRICA (SUB-SAHARA).....	tan
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.....	gray
WORLDWIDES.....	pewter

The changes that are of interest to readers of this report are as follows:

USSR reports will become SOVIET UNION reports.

The USSR REPORT: NATIONAL ECONOMY will be titled SOVIET UNION/ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (UEA).

The USSR REPORT: POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS will be titled SOVIET UNION/POLITICAL AFFAIRS (UPA).

The following Soviet journals will be added to those which are already issued in separate series:

- EKO: ECONOMICS & ORGANIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (UEO)
- THE WORKING CLASS & THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD (UWC)
- PEOPLES OF ASIA & AFRICA (UAA)
- MILITARY HISTORY JOURNAL (UMJ)
- FOREIGN MILITARY REVIEW (UFM)
- AVIATION & COSMONAUTICS (UAC)
- SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES (USS)

If any subscription changes are desired, U.S. Government subscribers should notify their distribution contact point. Nongovernment subscribers should contact the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161.

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semimonthly by the NTIS, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

Soviet books and journal articles displaying a copyright notice are reproduced and sold by NTIS with permission of the copyright agency of the Soviet Union. Permission for further reproduction must be obtained from copyright owner.

20 MAY 1987

USSR REPORT
POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

CONTENTS

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

PRAVDA Reports Belorussian CP CC Plenum (A. Simurov, A. Ulitenok; PRAVDA, 29 Mar 87)	1
Ukrainian Komsomol Congress Discussions Reported (D. Dyakov, P. Polozhevets; KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, 12 Mar 87)	6
Ukrainian CP CC Disciplines Officials (RADYANSKA UKRAINA, 19 Mar 87)	11
Lvov Obkom Chief Replaced (PRAVDA UKRAINY, 22 Mar 87)	13
MSSR Buro Criticizes Machine-Building, Construction Sectors (SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA, 25 Feb 87)	18
Georgian Raykom Chief Patiashvili Defends Nepotism (T. Patiashvili; KOMUNISTI, 9 Dec 86)	21
Georgian Procurator on Citizens' Rights (V. Razmadze; KOMUNISTI, 6 Jan 87)	21

MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA

Timidity of Journal Editors Under Stalin Recalled (A. Yegorov; LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, 21 Jan 87)	23
--	----

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

Abstracts on Marxist-Leninist History (M. S. Elport; OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI V SSSR; SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI, No 5, Sep-Oct 86)	31
Book on Philosophy of Using Information in Management Reviewed (V. Molchanov; OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI V SSSR; SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI, No 5, Sep-Oct 86)	35
Life of Azeri Nationality Theoretician Reviewed (D. Guliyev; KOMMUNIST, 22 Jan 87)	39
History of Azeri Science Neglected (Aghababa Rzayev; ADAVIYYAT VA INJASANAT, 16 Jan 87)	39
Iranian Azeri National Liberation Poet Remembered (Latif Huseynov; ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT, 16 Jan 87)	40
Prominent Azeri Language Nationalist Dies in Iran (Khuraman Guliyeva; ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT, 16 Jan 87) ..	40
Importance of Semiotics in Sufi Poetry Analyzed (Rahim Aliyev; ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT, 20 Feb 87)	40

CULTURE

RSFSR Writers Critical of OGONEK, MOSCOW NEWS (LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA, 27 Mar 87)	41
Publishing Houses in Siberia Too Small, Ineffective (Yu. Burykin, V. Rasputin; PRAVDA, 3 Feb 87)	55
Cinema Institute Fails To Produce New Talent (A. S. Plakhov, V. Shmyrov; NEDELYA, No 9, 2-8 Mar 87) ..	60

SOCIAL ISSUES

Book Examines Socialist Way of Life (L. M. Stepina; OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI, No 5, Sep-Oct 86)	65
Book Notes Social Structure Changes for Workers, Intelligentsia (K. I. Vlasenko; OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI, No 5, Sep-Oct 86)	68
Interview Clarifies Emigration Rules (S. I. Alpatov Interview; VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA, 6 Mar 87) .	72
Supreme Court Official Decries Judicial Errors (Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Smolentsev; ZHELOVEK I ZAKON, No 3, Mar 87)	76

Russian Motor Transport Ministry Illegalities Hit (V. Lysenko; SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, 1 Mar 87)	84
RSFSR Burial Services Inadequate, Bribes Frequent (Yu. Orlik; IZVESTIYA, 4 Mar 87)	89
Investigation Clears Armenian MVD Minister of Corruption Charges (Gennadiy Bocharov, Zoriy Balayan; LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, 1 Apr 87)	94
Briefs	
Woman Sets Self Afire in Tajikistan	95

REGIONAL ISSUES

Milwaukee-Kiev Radiobridge Features Discussion on Chernobyl (Moscow Domestic Service, 25 Mar 87)	96
Administrative Error Seen as Cause of Sargoan Dam Failure (Various sources, various dates)	100
Preventive Work Unorganized	100
Reservoir Construction Investigated	101
Earlier Fears Highlighted	101

/9987

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

PRAVDA REPORTS BELORUSSIAN CP CC PLENUM

PM021303 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[Report by own correspondents A. Simurov and A. Ulitenok: "From Positions of Demandingness; Decisions of CPSU Central Committee January Plenum on the Agenda"]

[Text] Minsk--The experience of the Belorussian railroad workers, who are increasing shipments with fewer workers, is being disseminated more and more widely in the country. Their example has already been followed by workers in the republic's motor vehicle transportation and by workers of the civil aviation administration and the Minsk subway. In the first 2 years of the 5-year plan alone motor transportation workers have released 9,000 people for other national economic sectors. Industrial production has been growing at accelerated rates. Construction workers have reduced the number of construction schedule overruns and sharply improved qualitative indicators. Workers in the agroindustrial complex are now struggling for intensive pledges which would have been hard to imagine even recently. The social sphere is developing at an accelerated rate.

But this was not the main subject of discussion at the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum in Minsk. Its participants focused their attention on unresolved problems, the speediest eradication of shortcomings, and the search for ways of deepening restructuring and improving work with cadres in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. Communists took the rostrum or went to microphones set up in the hall, and conducted a direct, acute, and often impartial discourse.

Why Has the Pace Slowed?

In analyzing the main sphere of party organizations' activity--the economic sphere--keynote speaker Ye. Sokolov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, and the other speakers in the debates concluded that full use is by no means being made of the existing labor, technical, and scientific potential and the reserves for intensifying production. Serious disruption in industry was permitted in January. In February the situation was rectified. However, industrial output growth over these 2 months was 3.4 percent against a pledge of 5.2 percent, and labor productivity growth was 3.1 percent against a pledge of 5 percent.

The main cause of the slowdown is the lack of receptivity to innovation on the part of a number of leaders and specialists and the inability--and in some places even the reluctance--to restructure and work with a long-term view in mind.

What this entails can be seen in the example of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Local Industry. Its enterprises employ 5,300 specialists with higher education, but 519 of them are employed as workers. At the same time a considerable proportion of directors, chief engineers, and shop chiefs have only secondary education. And the result is that one in three workers in the sector are engaged in manual labor. The consumer qualities of many items are low and the number of complaints is growing. That was how the work style of Minister N. Kostikov was described.

It would be right, it was stated at the plenum, for each department of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and each Central Committee personally to deal not only with leading party-vetted workers but with all cadres of the sectors under their jurisdiction, including cadres in the mass professions.

The plenum mentioned the following figure: More than 70 percent of the items produced by the Belorussian machine building industry fall below the standard of world achievements. The reason again lies with the inadequate cadre backup for technical policy. Formalism in the assessment and remuneration of engineers has not been eradicated. The introduction of state acceptance has improved the quality of goods, but not everywhere. For instance, people at the "Legmash" Plant in Orsha have set about doing something quite different from strengthening technological discipline--they have started pressuring state acceptance representatives.

These problems were mentioned, in particular, by A. Kamay, first secretary of Gomel party obkom; A. Kovalevskiy, lathe operator at the Belorussian Motor Vehicle Plant in Zhodino; V. Tsivinskiy, first secretary of Orsha party gorkom; and G. Vengerchuk, worker at the Berezovo Meat Combine.

Or take the following situation. The republic's "Quality" program worked out over the last year had only "permeated" one level--the oblast centers (and not even all of them)--and had not reached the cities and rayons or enterprises, which are the very places where items must have good consumer qualities. In this regard the plenum criticized V. Kritskiy, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers; V. Kondratenko, deputy chairman of the [Belorussian SSR] Gosplan; V. Savich, chief of the Belorussian SSR State Committee for Standards; and V. Bysenko, A. Trutnev, and A. Bedenko, chiefs of Central Committee sections.

How are things in the social sphere? The work of Soligorsk party gorkom in stepping up concern for working people and their needs and requirements was cited as an example. In the last 2 years 1,800 apartments, schools with 2,000 places, and preschools with 460 places have been built, which is almost double what had been planned. Each family will have its own

apartment by 1998, and each family at the "Beloruskaliy" Association will have its own apartment by 1995. However, there are still many leaders in the republic who are unconcerned about people's living conditions. We must put a stop to our inattentive attitude to the development of the social sphere.

The plenum resolved that: Not less than three-fourths of the labor productivity growth planned for the 12th 5-Year Plan is to be obtained through measures involving scientific and technical progress. The measures worked out for specifically improving output quality and bringing the main range of goods up to world technical standards in the current 5-year plan are to be unconditionally implemented. The necessary conditions for switching all the republic's enterprises to self-recoupment and self-financing as of 1988 are to be ensured. Financial autonomy is to be introduced in all intraplant subdivisions and production formations. Each party organization should focus on concern for people and their working, living, and leisure conditions.

Learning Economic Management

Examining the measures to deepen restructuring in the agrarian sector, the plenum pointed to the main problem: switching horticulture and stock-raising to industrial techniques.

It is now particularly important to master the art of rational economic management and the skill of profoundly analyzing economic indicators, seeking out reserves, and bringing them into play. Therefore it was no accident that the economic state of laggard kolkhozes and sovkhozes was closely examined. Last year alone the republic's farms obtained almost R800 million in aid from the state. But how did they use it?

The plenum cited two farms and two indicators. Michurin Sovkhoz in Chervenskiy Rayon used the funds it received to develop production and build housing and other social, cultural, and leisure facilities. This helped to boost the farm's profitability by 55 percent last year alone. Whereas, "Yubileyny" Kolkhoz in Buda-koshelevskiy Rayon mainly used the financial aid it received to pay wages. As a result its profitability was only 0.7 percent.

What role is played by the republic's State Agroindustrial Committee [Gosagroprom] organs in leading agricultural production and in fulfilling the Food Program?

"Not everything was thought through when these organs were set up," A. Malofeyev, first secretary of Minsk party obkom, said. "There have been very many organizational misunderstandings."

This idea was supported in the speech by A. Dutkovskaya, chief animal specialist at Lenin Kolkhoz in Berestovitskiy Rayon.

"The principles of the management of the agrarian sector have not changed. The goals of many rayon agroindustrial association workers have remained the same as before: issuing orders, 'handing down' willful decisions, 'extorting' above-plan output. The only 'improvement' has been in the rise in equipment prices. Spare parts for equipment sometimes cannot be had for love nor money."

The plenum resolved that: Party committees and organizations are to focus agroindustrial cadres' attention on ensuring dynamic production development by closely coordinating it with science and effectively introducing intensive techniques and economic management methods. By 1990 grain crop yields are to increase to not less than 30 quintals, and freed unit yields are to increase to 40 quintals per hectare of agricultural land, and to 50 quintals per hectare of plowland. Milk herd productivity is to be brought up to 3,500-4,000 kg, and average daily weight gains are to be brought up to 600-650 grams for cattle for rearing and fattening, and to 400-450 grams for hogs. This year the Belorussian SSR Gosagroprom is to develop a sound program for ensuring the accelerated transition of stock-raising to an industrial footing.

Be Demanding of Yourself

The success of restructuring in the republic, the plenum participants said, depends above all on how skillfully, actively, consistently, and purposefully party committees and organizations themselves are restructured.

Well-organized systems, meaningful attitudes, and persistence in improving the political leadership of economic and cultural development are becoming increasingly characteristic of the work style of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat and Bureau, the speakers noted. At the same time it was admitted that the Central Committee and its apparatus are restructuring only slowly. The weakest link is the organization of the execution of decisions that are made.

The following example was particularly cited. On the proposal of the Light Industry and Consumer Goods Department the Central Committee Bureau listened on four occasions to reports from the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Light Industry, and indicated the serious shortcomings in the work of the collegium and apparatus party organization. Minister L. Nagibovich received a severe party reprimand. The plenum participants asked why the blame was not also shared by N. Gulev, chief of a Central Committee section; V. Petrov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; and V. Lepeshkin, secretary of the Central Committee?

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee once recommended the creation in Brest Oblast of a science-and-production association to accelerate the modernization and retooling of enterprises. The Gosagroprom was instructed to examine the question of the creation of a sectorial laboratory to study the problems of protein feed. Time has passed but nothing has been done. What kind of attitude to collectively devised

decisions is this from V. Kebich, chairman of the Belorussian SSR Gosplan, and Yu. Khusainov, chairman of the republic's Gosagroprom?

The plenum demanded more vigorous restructuring in the work of party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms. In this regard the positive experience accumulated at Luninets Gorkom, and Mostovskiy, Klimovichskiy, Tolochinskiy, and Dobrushskiy party raykoms was noted.

Quite the opposite was stated about the work style of Vetkovskiy Raykom headed by N. Golubovskiy. The party committee has perceived restructuring as a signal for mass punishments. In the last 2 years more than 50 leaders have had party proceedings instituted against them.

Other party committees and primary party organizations also permit serious shortcomings in cadre selection, placement, and training. There have also been cases of unjustifiably rapid worker turnover. Subjectivism and secretiveness have not been eradicated in the nomination of leaders, and the opinion of labor collectives is not always taken into account, which often leads to blatant errors. Thus, in the last 5 years more than 40 Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee party-vetted workers have been relieved of their duties because of abuse of their service position.

The plenum resolved that democratic initiatives in work with cadres are to be developed in every possible way. A clear-cut system for monitoring their activity is to be set up, envisaging regular reports by elected and appointed officials to labor collectives and the population. We must strive to ensure that all party committees as organs of political leadership act as genuine generators and proponents of new ideas, ensure close collaboration and coordinated work among soviet and economic organs and social organizations, and provide for their active participation in the restructuring process.

/9604

CSO: 1800/547

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

UKRAINIAN KOMSOMOL CONGRESS DISCUSSIONS REPORTED

PM171035 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by special correspondents D. Dyakov and P. Polozhevets under the rubric "Komsomol: Reports and Elections": "Between Yesterday and Tomorrow. Notes from the 25th Ukrainian Komsomol Congress"]

[Excerpt] Kiev--Generally speaking, preparations for the congress started on the day when the youth press published the [Ukrainian] Komsomol Central Committee information report. Bombastic phrases and splendid assurances were avoided. Shortcomings and problems were brought to the fore. And the question was clearly posed: What is to be done, and how is it to be done in the future?

On becoming chairman of his kolkhoz, Vasil Stepenko thought of this around the clock. He went into school on one occasion, and asked: "Who is the best soccer player?" "Igor Velanov," the whole grade replied as one. "And who is the best singer?" "Valeriy Leontyev." "And how much wheat per hectare do we harvest on the kolkhoz?" Silence. Stepenko then decided to get down to mathematics. Or rather, to compile mathematical problems. So that pupils would not think simply in terms of "water running out of one pipe and running in from another" but, when solving the problems, would think of their home, the kolkhoz, their fathers' work.

He inherited a weak farm. In order to get out of the difficulties, he organized sowing on the basis of economics and advanced technologies. He himself learned how to think, and he made the specialists do the same. The Vorovskiy Kolkhoz grew stronger with the passage of time. It became one of the best in the Poltava region. Profits did not just double or quadruple, but grew tenfold and more. Consequently, Vasiliy believes--and he said so at the congress--that a leader who is not a master of economics is like a blindfolded engineer. He cannot avoid a train crash. The term "economics" for a Komsomol worker means knowledge of the sore spots in the young people's environment. But even that is not sufficient. One also needs moral and political flair to be able to offer young people prompt guidance and support.

"A meeting was held at the [Ukrainian] Komsomol Central Committee on the eve of the congress," Vasiliy narrated. "We were asked to ask questions and raise problems. More of them, and more sharply. But what is the point in asking questions?" the chairman fumed. "Many have learned to do this, but when it comes to solving them...."

The "new approaches" which were often spoken of in the accountability report are, of course, another matter. They really have appeared within the republic Komsomol organization. Valeriy Alekseyev, blast furnace attendant at the "Krivorozhstal" Metallurgical Combine, did not have anything against them. He simply gave a reminder that old promises should not be forgotten while showing concern for the new.

"What is the main machinery at a blast furnace?" he asked the audience from the rostrum. And he answered: "Crowbars and shovels, just like before."

And the fact that the republic Komsomol had apparently sponsored the introduction of small-scale mechanization was a real revelation to Valeriy.

New forms and old debts. This is a conversation topic in itself. In the course of the current report and election campaign, many people hastened to claim that the "free microphones" are a serious step in the direction of restructuring. We are, they said, changing the style and methods of work. And went on to list the shortcomings: The main point being to speak out sharply and energetically. Without forgetting to reveal all existing problems and trends. But as regards specific work, specific results, and the reason why they failed to fulfill and to cope--that was only mentioned in passing, just like before.

That same small-scale mechanization was mentioned in literally just a dozen words: "We have barely scratched the surface here. The problem still remains acute." And that was all. But while Valeriy Alekseyev first heard about this sponsorship at the congress, Mariya Radivonyuk, leader of a team of painters from Rovno, heard about it a long time ago. Way back, when the Komsomol was just planning to seriously get down to small-scale mechanization. And what happened? Brush and trowel--this is the full extent of scientific and technical progress in her sector. And not only there. One worker in three performs manual labor in the republic.

Attempts were made to eliminate numerous shortcomings by means of a head-long cavalry charge. Initiatives and slogans were announced. The report also spoke of some of these "inventions." The Volyn Komsomol Obkom, for example, gave approval for a "review for the best Komsomol organization in fire prevention," while school pupils in Rokitnoye in the Kiev region proclaimed a "month's campaign to combat noise and running in corridors." They were just following other people's examples. The [Ukrainian] Komsomol Central Committee Working Youth and Rural Youth Sections backed 45 initiatives. Without any real results. Just like the numerous seminars and conferences. Milking machine operators from all over the republic gathered in Belaya Tserkov. They spent 7 days learning. But what? There was one

single milking unit in a glass case, just like in a museum--neither to be touched by human hands nor to be tried in operation. As for the lectures, they were more like defenses of doctoral dissertations....

The desire of some Komsomol committees to produce a wonderful and effective slogan for every occasion, at the slightest convenient opportunity, can still be felt. And right away, after only a week or two, results and information are demanded: What has been introduced, what results have been achieved. And so on, from event to event, from situation to situation.

But how about real life? It marches on along its own tracks. There was a girl called Lena living in one of the suburbs of Kiev. She was a student at one of the city's schools. She was also a member of one of the city's Komsomol raykoms, where one of her former teachers was second secretary. She lived in a large but still unfinished house. Her father was a jack-of-all-trades. He never refused to help anyone in exchange for a bottle. But he simply could not manage to set up his own home. He was sent to jail for drunken brawling. The mother spent more time in the hospital than at home. Lena managed to live on her mother's small pension, bringing up her younger brother and somehow succeeding in making ends meet. Having reached the ninth grade, the girl decided to get a job, but no one would have her: Not the right age, we have enough workers of our own. That was when Lena approached the raykom. They promised: We'll help. Then they started evading the issue, someone said that Lena was moving somewhere else, and that was all.... She did not call on the raykom again. She arranged her own life. But without the raykom's help.

What is the value of all the raykom's actions if they are used to cut people off from those for whom they are meant? Of course, hardly anyone would have had an opportunity to shine from the rostrum just by helping that girl. But she would have remembered it for the rest of her life. Is that not enough? Is that not a matter of accountability? Do the Komsomol committee's power and authority not depend on that?

"Let's coordinate matters, don't be in a hurry, it may be possible provided...." This is what Komsomol aktiv members often hear when they take a fresh idea to the Komsomol committee.

"This is what we are told in the Central Committee, and—I am ashamed to admit—this is what we tell the aktiv members," Vladimir Klimenko, first secretary of the Kiev Komsomol Gorkom, said with sincere regret. He backed his words with an eloquent example. A draft document on students' self-management, prepared by the republic's Komsomol Central Committee and Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, contains the following lines: "The right to self-management is granted only to groups which have achieved high indicators and only by virtue of a decision by the administration and the faculty's party, Komsomol, and trade union bureau." There you have it: We give an inch and take away a yard.

There was sharp and frank criticism at the congress. And yet, in daily life it often verges on ostentation. Criticize so as not to be reproached for lagging behind the demands of the time. Over a 2-year period the Cherkasskiy Obkom criticized two of its raykoms--Drabovskiy and Zhashkovskiy--on more than 30 and 40 occasions. Its officials traveled to render practical assistance, spending almost 100 days in each of the rayons. And yet the oblast report and election conference again criticized these organizations for the same shortcomings.

The congress proceeded in a businesslike and democratic fashion, and we heard many Komsomol workers speak. But here is an interesting detail. Before the congress we were given assurances that the lists of speakers would be compiled on the basis of delegates' requests. At the congress itself, following the report, we were reminded again: We ask those wishing to speak to register. But when the speeches were terminated, 32 of those "registered" had not been called. And the most interesting point is that not one of them insisted on speaking.

Here is something else. The [Ukrainian] Komsomol Central Committee had a good idea. Long before the congress, each delegate had an opportunity to fill out a special form. To ask a question of any ministry. To suggest something interesting. Consultation desks operated in the breaks between sessions in the lobby of the "Ukraina" Palace of Culture. The delegates received their forms with written answers. New questions were answered on the spot.

Engineer Mikhail Burlay, chairman of the Simferopol University Council of Young Scientists and Specialists, was given a serious mission by his associates. He was to find out in the capital whether they would receive housing soon. Seeing a desk with a sign from the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education in the lobby, he made his way there. He outlined the burning problem. He even felt pleased: What a good job, no need to go knocking on doors, the ministry has come to you. A calm and benevolent voice reminded him that he had entered the wrong door.

"This question ought to be addressed to the Council of Ministers," Mikhail heard as he walked away from the desk. (In actual fact, some ministries simply brushed aside many other written questions. The kids received formal written replies.)

...There were about 2,000 of them, of these delegates' questions. Neat, lightly creased pieces of paper. Written in different colored inks. Questionnaires. True enough, not the ones where people put down the year and place of their birth. Proposals. Important ones and secondary ones, on petty matters and on matters of state importance. But they all deal with the main issue: Restructuring in our life.

"They will be carefully studied," we were told after the organizational plenum by Valeriy Tsybukh, who was reelected first secretary of the Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee. "As for the delegates' questions to ministries and departments, this is what we'll do: We will analyze each and every one of them. We will insist on a specific answer whenever a formal reply has been given. As for the rest, we will follow up their implementation. After all, we did not start all this just for the sake of formal action."

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and N. Dolgushkin, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, took part in the work of the congress and spoke there.

/9604

CSO: 1800/546

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

UKRAINIAN CP CC DISCIPLINES OFFICIALS

AU231504 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 19 Mar 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat has examined the results of the investigation carried out in response to the item "How Did They Destroy a Forest Preserve" published by the newspaper RADYANSKA UKRAINA on 17 February 1987. The facts stated in the item have been confirmed. The investigation has ascertained that, in the "Zmyini Ostrovy" natural bound [urochyshe] under the Zolotonosha forest industry establishment in Cherkassy Oblast, which had to be handed over to the Kanev state preserve, part of the trees had been logged, and shrubbery and plant covering, shaped over many years, had been damaged. This has resulted from the criminal neglect of duties on the part of Comrade M.D. Andriutsa, director of the Zolotonosha forest industry establishment, and Comrade V.I. Dmytrenko, director of the Kanev state preserve. Knowing about the Ukrainian Council of Ministers decision to transform the "Zmyini Ostrovy" natural bound into a preserve, they failed to take opportune steps to take and hand over these lands. Moreover, on 30 January 1987 Comrade M.D. Andriutsa authorized, without the preserve management's consent, a selective upkeep logging in the forest.

An occasion for this unprecedented case was also given by some functionaries of the Ukrainian Ministry of the Forestry Industry, the Cherkassy Oblast administration for forestry and timber procurements, and the Kiev T.G. Shevchenko State University, who assumed an irresponsible attitude on the aforesaid decision of the republic's Council of Ministers and did not organize appropriate control over the activities of the corresponding services.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has taken note of the decision adopted by the board of the Ukrainian Ministry of the Forestry Industry on 26 February to dismiss Comrades M.D. Andriutsa and V.M. Tkachenko from the posts of director and of chief forester in the Zolotonosha forest industry establishment, and Comrade V.M. Kovalenko, from the post of chief forester in Cherkassy Oblast administration for forestry and timber procurements. N.S. Omelchuk, chief of Cherkassy Oblast administration for forestry and timber procurements, and Comrade V.S. Anrusyshyn, chief

of the Forestry Administration in the Ukrainian Ministry of the Forestry Industry, were severely reprimanded. The attention of Comrade V.M. Brezhnev, deputy minister, was severely called to the relaxed exactingness with regard to the staff of specialists in the apparatus and oblast administrations. Measures have been worked out to preclude such cases in the future.

For the blatant violation of his official duties, Cherkassy Obkom bureau has expelled M.D. Andriutsa from the party membership. Comrade V.I. Dmytrenko, director of the Kanev state preserve, was severely reprimanded and the reprimand has been recorded in his file; Comrade M.S. Omelchuk, chief of the oblast forestry and timber procurements administration, was reprimanded and the reprimand has been recorded in his file; and Comrade M. Ya. Konovalenko, chief of the oblast inspection for the protection of nature, was reprimanded.

Cherkassy Oblast Prosecutor's Office has instituted a criminal investigation into the infringements committed.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has noted that, in organizing the implementation of government decisions, the board of the Ukrainian Ministry of the Forestry Industry occasionally acted in a perfunctory, irresponsible manner, and lacked control. Note has been taken of the request made by Comrade V.D. Baytala, minister for retirement, on pension.

The attention of Comrade V.D. Parkhomenko, Ukrainian minister of higher and secondary special education, and Comrade V.V. Skopenko, rector of the Kiev T.G. Shevchenko State University, has been called to the insufficient responsibility of leading functionaries for the observance of preserve regulations and for increasing the effectiveness of scientific research in the Kanev state preserve.

The territory of the "Zmiyini Ostrovy" natural bound has now been handed over to the Kanev state preserve. Preserve regulations have been put into effect in the area, and forest plantings have been taken under protection. Plans are being worked out for scientific research to be carried out in the area.

/9604
CSO: 1811/15

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

LVOV OBKOM CHIEF REPLACED

AU300715 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 22 Mar 87 p 3

[RATAU report: "Let Us Strictly Observe the Norms of Party Life"]

[Text] The obkom and its bureau must resolutely abandon their obsolete style of leadership, must see to it that the norms of party life are strictly observed, must be closer to people, and must carry out restructuring in a businesslike manner. These were the ideas emphasized at a plenum of Lvov Obkom held 20 March. The plenum discussed the tasks stemming from a note by CPSU Central Committee departments on the results of a check into letters received from Lvov Oblast, and from the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee decision on this issue. The plenum participants expressed full support and approval for the conclusions and assessments contained in these documents.

The plenum was held in an atmosphere of high mutual exactingness, of frankness in exchanging views, and of criticism and self-criticism. It showed that the oblast party organization was mature, efficient, and resolved to eliminate shortcomings and to ensure the party's influence on accelerating the oblast's socioeconomic development.

The speakers at the plenum--A.A. Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary and obkom members--emphasized that in recent years the obkom, its bureau, and obkom First Secretary V.F. Dobrik personally had permitted a number of serious shortcomings and blunders, primarily in work among cadres. Deviations from the norms of party life had taken place, and the authentic spirit of exactingness and adherence to party principles had not been enhanced. This caused bewilderment among the Communists and gave rise to various false rumors among the working people. And it was not mere chance that in 1986 the CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committees received many letters dealing with these shortcomings.

As noted at the plenum, the causes of this lay in the relaxation of organizational and political work, in the miscalculations in settling cadre problems, and in the lack of objectivity on the part of oblast leaders in assessing the true situation in socioeconomic development. An erroneous reaction to criticism and infringements of socialist legality were permitted.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee repeatedly called the attention of the obkom bureau, the obkom secretariat, and V.F. Dobrik, personally to slips in the style of work, and to the unprincipled and liberal treatment of a number of officials abusing their official status. The causes of serious shortcomings in work among health service cadres were scrutinized in particular. As a matter of fact, R. Ya. Monastyrskiy, former chief of the oblast health service department, has messed up the work among cadres. With his connivance, bribery thrived in many medical institutions and patients were treated in a callous way. The obkom failed to take effective steps to eliminate the shortcomings. Moreover, instead of a severe punishment, Comrade Monastyrskiy was appointed to the post of director of a scientific research institute. The culprits of blatant breaches of socialist legality in Zhidachevskiy Rayon were also protected against having to give a strict account.

Having taken the floor at the plenum, R.O. Ostapyak, team leader at the Lvov motor bus plant and obkom bureau member, said that the conclusions drawn by the CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committees and stated in their documents met the spirit of the times. There are still many unsettled problems in the oblast, and a gap between word and deed is being permitted. One of the causes of this lies in the fact that some leaders do not cope with their obligations and live unaware of the changing times. And the obkom bureau and secretaries treat them with obvious indulgence. It is essential to be more exacting with regard to cadres and to evaluate people in accordance with their real value.

While calling attention to the serious miscalculations in V.F. Dobrik's work, the speakers at the plenum pointed out that, in his first years in the post of obkom first secretary, he energetically and persistently tackled the questions of party control over the national economy. The obkom's work was remarkable for its enterprising attitude. A number of undertakings initiated in the oblast met with support in the republic and all over the country. A strong scientific and production potential was created in the oblast. A great deal had been done to raise the effectiveness of scientific elaborations, to integrate science with production, and to reform the countryside socially. In recent times, however, V.F. Dobrik began to evaluate achievements in a way that lacked self-criticism, and exaggerated his merits. He frequently disregarded the opinions of obkom bureau members and took criticism in an unhealthy manner [boleznenno]. Obkom secretaries V.A. Svyatotskiy, M.G. Vasylyv, D.A. Yaremchuk; and bureau members M.I. Kirey, V.V. Sekretaryuk, and G.M. Pyzhik did not always properly adhere to principles in evaluating the actual state of affairs, and failed to call the attention of the first secretary to the permitted shortcomings in time.

All this has adversely affected the style of work in many gorkoms and raykoms, the education of cadres, the moral and psychological conditions in the oblast party organization, and the state of affairs in the economy and the social sphere.

In analyzing the style and methods of work adopted by the obkom bureau and secretaries, the plenum participants concentrated most of their attention on the immediate national economic tasks. They emphasized that the oblast communists and working people perceived the party directives aimed at restructuring and acceleration as an affair of vital importance and had confirmed this attitude through their selfless toil. In the first year of the 5-year period, they ensured the rates set for increasing production and overfulfilled plans for the sales of grain, meat, milk, and other agricultural produce to the state. Many front-ranking collectives, production innovators, and specialists are working very productively, and vigorously adopt everything that is new and advanced.

At the same time, a number of officials were submitted to criticism for their adherence to obsolete methods of leadership, and for lack of initiative and persistence in settling immediate problems. Oblispolkom Chairman M.I. Kirey was seriously censured for the shortcomings in agriculture, housing construction, and in the development of municipal, trade, and consumer services for the population.

Many Lvov city enterprises, V. Yu. Pekhota, gorispolkom chairman, said in his speech, develop in an uncomprehensive manner, and this makes it impossible to create proper working and recreation conditions for people. Leaders of many ministries and departments are generous with promises, but do not fulfill these promises with concrete deeds.

R.P. Kovalevskiy, Nikolayevskiy Raykom first secretary, and other speakers pointed out that many oblast functionaries reacted to criticism in an unhealthy way and tolerated no remarks made by the communists at plenums and meetings, and no critical publications in the press, including the newspaper PRAVDA. Control over compliance with critical remarks has been organized poorly, and not even one single oblast leader has been punished for explicit or implicit suppression of criticism. Serious reproaches were made to obkom Secretary D.A. Yaremchuk for formalism in ideological and educational work.

Yu. F. Kurapov, Leninskiy Raykom first secretary, noted that many obkom members and gorkom and raykom secretaries had failed to restructure and had acted in the old way. Neither was there any open discussion on miscalculations and skips in the obkom bureau. This was the case despite the emerging phenomena of stagnation.

Extensive development methods prevail in industry. Last year the share of growing labor productivity in the increase of industrial production amounted to only 84 percent. Enterprises, machine building enterprises, are switching over to multishift operations too slowly. In the current year the oblast had fallen short of the 2-month plans for production volume and for increasing labor productivity. The number of enterprises lagging behind has increased, and building enterprises have fallen short of the targets. Party, administrative, and economic organs, it was noted at the plenum, have to concentrate their efforts on applying the achievements of scientific-technological progress, on adapting enterprises to economic management methods and to advanced forms of labor and wage organization.

The speakers expressed concern at the fact that the oblast was losing the previously won positions in the quality of products, and that many other initiatives were fading away. The process of mastering the production of new kinds of equipment is going on too slowly. The tasks for developing promising production items, primarily motor buses, lift trucks, television sets, and consumer goods, have not been accomplished for a number of years.

At the plenum Obkom Secretary M.G. Vasylyv was exposed to sharp criticism for the shortcomings in control over agriculture. The need was noted to make full use of the possibilities available to step up the output of grain, meat, milk, fruit, and vegetables, to thoroughly prepare for the spring field work, and to lay strong foundations for obtaining the planned yields of grain and other produce. More attention has to be paid to the final stage in cattle wintering. The role of new management organs in the agro-industrial complex, it was noted at the plenum, is still hardly perceptible in the accomplishment of these tasks. They still have not overcome departmental narrow-mindedness and, instead of assisting farms in a purposeful way, are engaged in pencil pushing. A.T. Bayduk, oblast agro-industrial committee chairman, has not displayed proper organizational and businesslike qualities and has been perfunctory in cadre selection.

Constant attention has to be paid to issues concerning the oblast's social development. V.A. Tsaruk, woman knitter at the "Luch" knitwear production association, and L.A. Yevtushevskaya, woman grinder at the "Raduga" association, emphasized that the obkom, its bureau, and its secretaries must stand closer to people's needs and worries, and must severely bring to account those who tend to turn a blind eye to these needs and worries. The situation in medical institutions is cheerless. In many of them services are inefficient, sanitary conditions are unsatisfactory, and the number of beds is insufficient. If these acute problems are not settled immediately, all discussions on restructuring will remain empty phrases.

As a political organ, it was noted at the plenum, the obkom must have a deeper insight into the problems accumulated in the oblast, must assess the situation in a principled way, and must energetically carry out restructuring in all sectors in conformity with the requirements of the 27th Party Congress and the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee plenum.

The plenum set the task of ensuring that the Leninist principles and norms of party life are strictly observed, of improving cadre work, of expanding openness by all means, and of promoting criticism and self-criticism, particularly criticism from below. Immediate tasks were approved to overcome the lag incurred in the oblast's socioeconomic development. In these measures prominence was given to the better utilization of the scientific-technological and cadre potential, and of production reserves. Party committees, administrative and economic bodies are obliged to mobilize the efforts of the communists and all working people for the struggle to

successfully accomplish the tasks set for the current year and the 5-year period as a whole, and to welcome the 70th anniversary of the Great October in a worthy manner.

As reported, the plenum examined an organizational issue. In conformity with the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee decision, V.F. Dobrik was relieved of the post he held. Ya. P. Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretary, was elected Lvov Obkom first secretary.

/9604

CSO: 1800/540

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

MSSR BURO CRITICIZES MACHINE-BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION SECTORS

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 25 Feb 87 pp 1,3

[Unattributed report: "In the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The regular session of the Buro of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee discussed the matter of the unsatisfactory implementation of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee resolution "On the Work of Party, Soviet, and Trade Union Organizations, and Ministry and Republic Departments in Implementing the Tasks of the 27th CPSU Party Congress and the CPSU Central Committee resolutions 'On the Basic Directions for Accelerating the Solution of Housing Problems in the Nation'" by the Rybnitskiy and Ungenskiy gorispolkoms, and the Moldavian SSR Ministry of Motor Transport. A resolution on this question will be published.

Having discussed the matter of serious shortcomings in completing the construction program for machine-building complex projects, the Central Committee Buro expressed serious concern about the situation with them because the managers of contracting ministries and authorities, customer organizations, and party committees have not taken steps to put into practice the principles of the 27th CPSU Congress concerning the priority for growth of the machine-building branches of industry.

For the republic as a whole for 1986 in construction projects of the complex, the limit of capital investments was 78 percent utilized and that of construction-installation work 81 percent, including housing, which was 91 percent. Four industrial plants amounting to almost 51 million rubles in basic allocations failed to be put into operation. This is the result of an irresponsible attitude on the part of the ministries, departments, associations, and enterprises. Thus the management of the Moldselmash production association (general director A. P. Savchenko, former party buro secretary M. I. Shtirban) kept adjusting the project documents through the year, and did not order a large part of the non-standardized and technological equipment for the project which was to be initiated in that period. This disorganized the construction work and led to a disruption in the start-up of the new capacity. The plan for self-financed housing construction was 67 percent utilized, a 30-apartment building was not completed.

The truck trailer plant (director V. L. Kozhevatin, party organization secretary N. P. Manzhos) violated the agreed-upon dates for delivery of equipment, and did not complete the whole complex of finishing work on the projects in the start-up scheme. There was a three-to-four month delay in the start-up of project documentation and sites by the following plants: the Volna production association imeni K. U. Chernenko Vibropribor plant (director Yu. M. Byzov, general director M. M. Garshtya, party committee secretary A. I. Tsygulev); the Moldavizolit plant (director A. I. Blashku, party committee secretary A. I. Kravchenko), and the tractor plant (director V. G. Chirkov, party committee secretary F. I. Netyaga). As a result, these organizations lost time in their construction activity and this complicated settling the matters of ordering reinforced concrete and metal construction materials and operations were carried out at half strength.

There was a worsening in the organization of work at projects of the Ministry of Construction complex (P. S. Mikhnevich, Yu. I. Zaporozhets). Here a high-priority attitude was lacking at machine-building projects, and there was an absence of control over the progress of their current plans, over operational coordination of the interaction with the subcontractors and with the customers. Serious shortcomings which exist at these projects in the organization of production, engineering preparation, material supply, and the use of equipment were evaluated uncritically. A disorganized situation was allowed in the procedure for implementing standing tasks and at the machine-building projects by the Agropromstroy association (Yu. N. Zinovyev, G. N. Bunkovskiy). A severe lag in work was allowed by the Glavmoldavprommontazh of the USSR Ministry of Installation and Special Construction Work (V.V. Borets), where they did not meet the requirement to effect the steps they had agreed to with the customer for timely equipping of the projects underway, so the contract system was not used properly to discipline this work, and efficiency in the organization of installation work and plan completion was not provided.

The Central Committee Buro has demanded that the managers of enterprises, ministries and departments, and party committees are to see to it that each of the machine-building projects have in place by the first of March a way of working which takes into account the demands for construction work to be done during 1987, and which provides for unconditional completion of the plans for the first two years of the five-year plan both in volume of work and in completion of new capability. And they are to hand over to the customers during the first six months of this year all the projects of the complex that were to have been completed during 1986.

The attention of the Kishinevskiy, Tiraspol'skiy, and Bel'tskiy city party committees, and the Oknitskiy, Sorok'skiy, and Faleshtskiy raykom is directed to the insufficiency of the evaluation of the political significance of machine-building construction projects, and toward the lack of understanding of the fact that acceleration of their completion is one of the basic factors in implementing economic efficiency. These party committees are obliged to increase the intensity of political work in mobilizing worker collectives to

complete planned tasks and obligations on the projects of this complex in accordance with the demands of the January, 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

The progress of the implementation of the 24 September 1985 measures of the Moldavian CP Central Committee Buro and the republic Council of Ministers in providing for the construction of housing and cultural and domestic services projects on the territory of the West Siberian Petroleum and Gas Complex during the 1986-1990 time frame.

Acting jointly, the Council of Ministers and the republic Council of Trade Unions have examined the matter of steps for further improvement in services to the elderly and invalids. The measures that were taken in this connection by city and rayon party committees, the soviet of people's deputies, ministries, and economic and trade union organizations of the republic have shown the need to take steps for further improvement in the services to the elderly and invalids, and for decisive corrective measures for the shortcomings that were found in them, and to see to it that there is created everywhere a system of efficiency and attention to their requests and needs. The task was set of broadening the possibilities for labor veterans who have broad experience to participate to the extent they can in work feasible for them, in public work and in educational work. Special attention should be devoted to the improvement in medical assistance, and for the organization of rational and high-quality feeding programs in nursing homes, and the development of new forms of services which are suitable for the elderly and invalids and for the establishment of proper conditions for them for leisure.

The Central Committee Buro also looked at several other matters.

9016

CSO: 1800/402

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

GEORGIAN RAYKOM CHIEF PATIASHVILI DEFENDS NEPOTISM

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 9 December 1986 carries on page 2 under the title "We Should Not Have To Hunt for a Good Man" a 1,700-word article by Tetrtskaro Raykom First Secretary T. Patiashvili on the need for competent, honest cadres in high and low posts of the economy, party, and government. All too often, in his own experience, officials and managers have proved unequal to their assignment--and often dishonest to boot--and had to be dismissed; most of the examples cited involve kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Tetrtskaro Rayon. "We should not have to hunt for good men but should have a great number from which to choose the best."

Middle sections of the article caution that, although it is well to guard against "undesirable relations between officials and their relatives and associates," there is nothing wrong with placing such persons in positions where comradely relations and mutual trust are valuable. Party work does not rule out the possibility, and "we need not be afraid to do so provided the person is honest and competent."

Unfortunately, in all too many cases, when a good man does outstanding work, rises above his fellows, attracts public and media attention and attains to a post of higher responsibility purely on his own merit, envious and begrudging philistines [obyvateli] launch a flood of anonymous letters in an attempt to discredit and bring him down. Sad to say, "we ourselves often give in" to such pressure (Patiashvili cites an instance from experience in his previous party post in Aspindza Rayon). Such anonimshchiki care nothing for the common cause; they prefer having a leader "who steals as much as possible and lives on unearned income."

The author of the article devotes a brief passage to the "party schooling" of future leaders, beginning with the Pioneers and the Komsomol. Unfortunately, there are still too many unworthy leaders in the Pioneers and Komsomol, whose fond parents have pushed them into it in hopes of higher leadership posts later on. "Such cases must be categorically eliminated as soon as possible," for they discourage honest and dedicated persons.

GEORGIAN PROCURATOR ON CITIZENS' RIGHTS

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 6 January 1987 carries on page 3 under the title "Strengthening Law and Order Is an Essential Part of Restructuring" Georgian Procurator V. Razmadze's 2,000-word article

examining the substance and local implications of the recent CPSU Central Committee decree "Further Strengthening of Socialist Legality, Law and Law Enforcement, Reinforcing Citizens' Lawful Rights and Interests." In pursuance of the principle that all must be equal before the law, law enforcement organs have caught many a highly placed official in bribery and other abuses, and the author of this article warns that "this is no shortlived campaign."

Most of the first half of the article focuses on economic crimes and the role of the MVD and the procuracy in stopping them. Moreover, law enforcement organs are particularly interested in rooting out big-time corruption, citing figures on losses sustained by the state's economy due to various types of theft and graft. Crimes against persons are another, related focus which is particularly important, in that protecting citizens against crime is a measure of the law enforcement organs' prestige and authority. Procurators who are not up to their part of this task will have to get out; Razmadze names several rayons whose procurators had to be fired for failure in this regard.

The last half of the article focuses on the decree's stipulations regarding citizens' rights against unlawful detention, incarceration, searches, and criminal proceedings. The author repeats several times that citizens must be guaranteed against all such infringements, instances of which are cited in Abkhazia, Adjara, Tbilisi, Rustavi, and Telavi. "The other day we submitted to the Minister of Internal Affairs a statement requesting that measures be taken to stop all such unlawful infringements on citizens' rights and to punish all perpetrators. We are certain that the MVD leadership will comply."

Such infringements are not the fault of the MVD alone, however; poor supervision by the procuracy is also to blame. For failure in this regard, procuracy officials in several named places had to be dismissed. Reference is also made to a recent GCP Buro condemnation of gross violations by the Adjarian Procuracy and courts in regard to a murder case. Author Razmadze emphasizes once more: No mercy will be shown to procuracy and MVD personnel who, working in the old way, continue to violate these principles. Procuracy staffs must be manned by politically mature, morally straight cadres.

6854

CSO: 1830/450

MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA

TIMIDITY OF JOURNAL EDITORS UNDER STALIN RECALLED

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jan 87 p 4

[Article by A. Yegorov under the "Month After Month" rubric: "Speak Out: The Press And Its New Problems"]

[Text] Glasnost, which has been making the social atmosphere noticeably less stuffy, has nonetheless resulted in some unexpected consequences.

Lately, everyone has been keenly interested in the newspapers, which have begun discussing topics that were strictly taboo just yesterday. There are a number of examples of this. These range from the sensational MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS articles--with their strange mix of piquancy and moralizing--on Moscow's members of the world's oldest profession to B. Matveyev's and S. Soloveychik's serious, passionate, and thought-provoking UCHITELSKAYA GAZETA polemic defending innovative pedagogy against the assaults of academic routine.

Some of our satirists however, who have grown accustomed to the virtuoso allusion, are saddened by this development. And movie makers are worried too: how are they going to top the material appearing in the papers? Finally, the theater is also reflecting gloomily on its prospects, since it is aware that no one can overtake the papers in the race ahead.

It would seem that even the country's magazines are at a sort of crossroads, since, to cite at least one piece of evidence, the number of pages in monthlies has been reduced. Yet it is they who have done the most to help glasnost take root by fighting bans, attacking complacency, and helping the very idea of public opinion get its feet on the ground. We owe them a profound debt of gratitude for their selfless and not always injury-free service to what we might call their mission.

In continuing their efforts, writers for magazines are now beginning to reflect on the future of the genre itself as well.

This is most readily apparent in Yuriy Chernichenko's feature article The Combine Moans and Thrashes, which appeared in NOVYY MIR, No. 12, 1986. We should remind our readers that the whole story started with another article entitled "The Combine Mows and Threshes", which appeared in the March 1983

issue of the magazine. The article concerned the epic development of the Don-1500 combine at Rostselmash [Rostov Agricultural Machinery Plant]. Unfortunately, the "epic" showed all too clearly what happens when there is an industrial monopoly.

Currently, Chernichenko is finishing up his long-standing quarrel with Rostselmash. The battle, in which Chernichenko has argued bitterly and been left with many a bad taste in his mouth, resulted because the combine manufacturing giant refused to let the writer through its portals for over three years. They simply put a lid on what they were doing and went ahead with their business in the meantime. As a result, they began producing the Don-1500 combine, a child of the behemoth era, which was sent out to frolic in the fields. Alas, the heavy combine was unsuited for frolicking and ended up packing the soil too densely. And on top of that, the Don-1500 is not as good as the competition.

Of the six models the John Deere Company sells, the 8820 is probably the closest to the Don. Its turbodiesel produces 225 hp, the hopper has a capacity of 7.82 cubic meters, and it weighs 10,149 kilograms. The Don on the other hand produces only 162 hp, holds 6 cubic meters, and weighs 13,370 kilograms. That is 3,221 kilograms more! And it has a smaller hopper! And on top of that, the Don is 3 meters longer and 2 wider. It reminds me of Boris Godunov, when Varlaam says: "Where does it say 50? Look! It says 20."

The above is my reaction to Rostselmash General Director Yu.A. Peskov's statement in Komsomolskaya Pravda, where he said: "We have not only met world standards, we have exceeded them."

What a mess.

There is an important conclusion we should make from all this. That is, we must put a stop to departmental monopoly and give competitiveness, healthy competition, and initiative room to move.

But there is a second conclusion to be made here too. This one, which is of the in-house variety, should prompt magazine writers themselves to stop and think.

Chernichenko complains that: "Everything got written after the fact! Our 'writers shop' has developed a new genre, the error free 'expose,' which only comes out when it is too late to deal with the exposed problem, and when the writer operating with his scalpel risks--if anything at all--only his own health (Turgenev's medical student Basarov died from an infection acquired in this way). What I mean with this analogy is that we do not have a doctor able to both heal and make mistakes, but a skilled performer of autopsies whose motto is: 'The expose will reveal everything.'" Chernichenko continues: "We need to ask questions before it's too late to punish. Glasnost after the fact is too often a case of a voice crying in the wilderness."

So, what we need is articles written before the fact. This will help eliminate problems before it is too late.

This is actually a tremendous idea. We could have "preventive or prophylactic articles." (Tests would have to be made to determine the appropriate term.)

Do our journalists have anything they can use as a model? Fortunately, they do.

Let us recall Sergey Zalygin's insistent articles attacking the Nizhneobskaya GES project, which included plans to flood 135,000 square kilometers (more than the entire area of Czechoslovakia). The area that was saved (the project was dropped) is now the source of millions of tons of oil.

Another example they could use occurred when plans were underway to divert northern rivers south, into the Caspian Sea.

In fact, the river diversion plan was discussed with amazing completeness and vision by the same Zalygin in his article "The Turning Point: Lessons From A Discussion" (NOVYY MIR, No. 1, 1987). In less than 16 pages, the author made the entire history of the battle between public opinion and bureaucratic opinion live, breathe, and scorch us all. I will not recount the entire story, since it would be impossible to do so better than Zalygin, and since the reader probably remembers the key events in the adventure: newspaper articles, the RSFSR writers union's "ecological" congress, and, finally, the discussion of the problem at a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the CPSU Central Committee's decision to cease work on the diversion project.

Zalygin sums up the situation as follows: "By rejecting these far-fetched special interest river diversion projects, or, as they were sometimes called, "projects to change the course of the rivers," our state has actually effected its own change of course in the direction of public opinion.

"This change is as necessary as it is irreversible."

Everyone should read Zalygin's article, with its abundance of facts, conclusions, historic precedents, and future-oriented ideas. Zalygin avoids the temptation to say bureaucratic thinking is dead and is quite frank in his discussion of its current activities and machinations; but at the same time he does not shrink from confrontation with bureaucracy, and convinces us that we can in fact destroy this entrenched evil.

The in-house lesson we learned from this is that the power of the word and the efforts of a journalist are far from useless, and, in fact, are capable of averting disaster. And this is especially the case when state interests and ideas run contrary to the ideas and feelings of people.

Speak out! You will be heard!

When thinking about developments in today's journalism and the new opportunities it has, we should have an appropriately historical attitude and express our gratitude to our predecessors, such men as Tvardovskiy and Ovechkin.

And this leads to our real area of discussion--one which is difficult for a variety of reasons.

Everyone who reads regularly has, as they say, heard the name of Anatoliy Strelyaniy, a prolific and provocative writer who has proven himself in various roles, including scriptwriter ("Year of the Calf" and the angry documentary "Man of Archangel") and polemical and satirical essayist ("In the Herd of Horses and Friendship of Peoples", No. 12, 1986). For the most part, these articles are interesting, relevant, astute, and well done. And they haven't come out of nowhere. Their author has also written such well-hewn pieces as "Three on the Steppe", "The Kuban Prognosis", In "The Old Ash Tree", and "Visiting Mother". It is too bad the time frame we are dealing with forces us to look only at recent issues of our magazine, since it would be well worth our while to discuss "Income and Outgo: Socialism of Ideas Versus Socialism of Feelings" (ZNAMYA, No. 6, 1986), possibly the best piece of journalism written last year. The logic, keenness, and breadth of this article make it a journalistic event of the first water.

It is thus even more difficult for me to discuss the unfortunate ill treatment Ovechkin receives at the hands of Strelyaniy in the latter's short Essay on the 30th Anniversary of the Publication of Strelyaniy's "On the Job in the Region" (NOVYY MIR, No. 12, 1986). This is the third time I have mentioned NOVYY MIR in this context, but I am not being partial in my choice of journals to cite. I am simply reflecting the reality that NOVYY MIR is the leader in journalism.

The editors preface the essay with:

"We suspect that Strelyaniy's stance will make him both enemies and friends, and will result in arguments and objections."

They were right about that.

Strelyaniy starts with unqualified praise and even gratitude:

"Valentin Ovechkin's "On the Job in the Region" is a book about a village run "by paperwork and bureaucracy," and as such is amazingly relevant even today." He continues later, saying: "In other parts of the book, what he writes seems so immediate you feel like you are reading Saltykov-Shchedrin."

Later, after covering the famous controversy surrounding Ovechkin's articles, Strelyaniy equates them with the criticism of the party written by rural correspondents in the 40's, 50's, and 60's, never mentioning the major differences between these decades or the role of criticism in each of them. And he goes on from here. He writes that Ovechkin was always able to find ways to balance anything negative with something positive and placate the spirit of the times.

"It would appear that the book was written not only by Ovechkin the writer, but by Ovechkin the editor as well. They worked together in what was a model of fraternal cooperation. Beginning in 1952, when Stalin was still alive, the

two of them, author and editor, agreed tacitly to write a book that was more for publishing than for reading; that is, to write a book that any intelligent publisher would feel unthreatened by."

Let us follow these shocking suppositions back in time.

In the summer of 1952, (when overanxious Stalin was living out his last active year, Ovechkin came to Moscow from Lgov with a few copies of his essay "Borzov and Martynov", which he took to various magazine editors around the city. After reading the manuscript, editors would treat Ovechkin like a seriously deranged individual. "For some reason," he was unable to find a single "intelligent editor" who would realize that publishing the manuscript "would not get him into any trouble." In addition, the copies of the manuscript were never returned to him.

Ovechkin even sent one copy, addressed to Stalin, to the Kremlin.

And he kept the last one for himself.

One day, when he was wandering around Moscow, he found himself near the editorial offices of NOVIY MIR. He did not want to go in, since he and Tvardovskiy had quarrelled, and since someone had told Ovechkin that Aleksandr Trifonovich knew how to bear a grudge. Nonetheless, Tvardovskiy was his last glimmer of hope, and, with a feeling that he was lost anyway, gave the manuscript to a cleaning woman late in the evening to give to Aleksandr Trifonovich. Then he returned home to Lgov.

Once in Lgov, he received a package from the Kremlin containing his essay, but replete with exclamation points in the margins and red pencil slashes. No letter or note had been included, and Ovechkin set about gloomily wondering what tomorrow held in store for him.

But a week later he received the following telegram: "Are stopping issue. Printing your essay. Leave for Moscow. Tvardovskiy."

So this was the very "intelligent editor" he had been looking for.

According to A. Kondratovich's memoirs, Tvardovskiy had started to read the manuscript in the car, and it had made him cry.

The essay was published in issue 9 of 1952.

I do not wish to add anything to these facts. But you have to know them if you intend to form an opinion about Ovechkin. These events were related to me by Liliya Sharifovna Vilchek, who is studying Ovechkin and who knew him personally.

We do not intend to go into why Ovechkin ended up playing a game whose rules were dictated by authors writing industrial stories and kolkhoz dramas. But, like thousands of other readers of the NOVYY MIR of those times, I can attest that the magazine showed no evidence whatever of this game. Instead, Ovechkin's passion, pain, and convictions seared us all. He believed that the

kolkhoz's had been conceived not to make it easier to crank out loaves of bread, but to make people's lives better. And ultimately, the term Borzov Era took hold, the fourth such example of a literary hero giving his name to an epoch (Khlestakov, Manilov, and Oblomov all have periods named for them). Every writer of 1953 dreamed of coming up with something that had even one tenth the power of Ovechkin's work.

Strelyaniy writes: "I am absolutely certain of only one thing: reality is beyond the grasp of writers who give in."

Marvelous! But when discussing how vile it is to give in, couldn't Strelyaniy have condemned the legions of hackwriters without implicating a tragic and heroic man--a man who did so much, and did it first, for the village writers movement, for frank journalism, and for public opinion. Or does the utterance of a truth have to be accompanied by something shocking like: "I have drunk from my father's skull."

Indeed, we do not have to travel far to find examples of balanced journalism even now, when it is no longer required. There are plenty of them around.

All we have to do is read Oleg Konstantin Lagunov's essay "Dialogue on an Iceberg" in issues 10 and 11 of SIBIRSKIYE OGNI.

Lagunov, who has been around for a while, is well known to essay readers.

But for heaven's sake, why is his essay so full of yesterday's fears and an overwhelming desire not only to achieve a balance in journalism, but to have everything good that is mentioned by a journalist completely eclipse anything bad that is going on.

Of course problems do appear in his essay. For example, he speaks of the many years of difficult oil exploration in Siberia, where only a few obsessed fanatics believed deposits would be found. And he relates the confrontation between oil production personnel and scientists, discussing how the former did everything they could to get fast results and lower quotas. Finally, he attempts to determine why the Tyumen oil industry made such a poor showing in the last Five-Year Plan.

Nonetheless, every time he launches into a problem he balances it out with a quick leap into pathos and starts limning portraits of heroes, applying his colors in thick and sloppy strokes.

The "balanced" portrait of the famous Farman Salmanov, head of Glavtyumengeologiya [Main Tyumen Geological Administration], is a good example of what we are talking about. Among the litanies of pathos Lagunov weaves into his hero's laurel wreath is the following. Salmanov was a fanatical soccer fan and wanted to have the oblast soccer championship game played in his town. But the night before the game it rained.

"What do they mean the soccer field is soaked," said Farman Kurbanovich indignantly. A few moments later, at his command, a powerful MI-6 helicopter was airborne, hovering over the drenched stadium and using its whirling rotors

to dry the field. For four hours the powerful rotary winged machine thundered in place, where it burned up six thousand (! -ed.) rubles worth of fuel and never succeeded in getting the stadium dry anyway."

After reading this, I dug into my memory and recovered the literary (and real life) prototype of this difficult hero. He is obviously based on a character from Leonid Likhodeyev's "Portraits in Bronze and Plaster," an essay with Saltykov-Shchedrin's power of expression. Published originally in 1967 in ZHURNALIST, it has (a good 20 years later) recently been republished in the one-volume collection "Seven Fridays." The events in this essay surround an impetuous dam builder who dragged his army of 100,000 men all over Siberia with him, alternating charity with punishment and unfamiliar with the concept of keeping track of the money given to him by the state. But at least Likhodeyev looked at his hero with all his warts. Lagunov focuses on the pathetic and thus lets us down, the moral acuity and artistic vision drowned out by the pathos.

Every five to seven pages the author launches into some exposition of the "Tyumen character," which embodies, among other qualities, patriotism, commitment, and loyalty to state ideals. And we are left to try and guess why the people he attributed this character to managed to drop their end of the Five-Year Plan and spend years deluded by (and rewarded handsomely for) the mirage that oil production would suddenly make a great leap forward.

Well, I suppose we could assume the people there were overcome by some kind of mass confusion, but it would seem that together they should have been able to figure out what was going on.

"I was fortunate enough to be present at a meeting of the aktiv (he is speaking of the Tyumen conference attended by M. S. Gorbachev -ed.), and saw the radiant happiness in the eyes of the people sitting next to me."

Is that right? They didn't show any evidence of complex emotions, like shame and a sense of guilt for years of backsliding?! Nothing but radiant happiness!

And now the finale: "Inspired by the confidence and solicitation of the party, they will catch up and meet their quotas, holding high the triumphal people's gratitude and labor glory banner."

Here is an example of the purest form of compromise, pouring, as they say, from the purest of hearts.

Of course, things are much more complex in real life. The Tyumen workers are having a hard time with the reforms, and are finding it difficult to say goodbye to old techniques and, what is more difficult, to old colleagues. Here is but one example. Six months after M.S. Gorbachev's Tyumen visit, a TsSDF [not further identified] film team visited the large town of Pangody. They had never seen such a surreal mess: houses were full of holes, garbage heaps were everywhere, and crowding was abominable. There was one school and one kindergarten for 1,000 residents. And at the natural gas sites, the commission discovered that everything had been thrown together hastily: for example, piles had only been driven half the specified distance into the ground. The

commission, by the way, was headed by people who had started the rapid gas production effort here and now occupied higher posts. And you may rest assured that when they spoke of the reforms they did so with "radiant happiness in their eyes," although they were ready to change their expressions on a moment's notice.

As we have not yet mentioned Mikhail Yevgrafovich, I would like to take this opportunity to quote him in what will be the last citation of this article.

"How do intelligent people act? They say they're supposed to sympathize, so they do. But they add, that if they're ordered to see the whole issue of change in a certain way, they certainly won't refuse. This is how truly intelligent people act; that is, people who, regardless of their personal feelings, are always ready for a promotion." (From "Modern Idyll")

And now another interesting fact. The film team shot its footage and showed its film (which has not yet been seen in the Tyumen area). And the issues of SOVETSKAYA EKRANA which contain the story behind the film were absent from their usual place on the shelves in the Tyumen region.

This is a difficult time we are living through. And the last thing we need is flattery and flights of rapture vis-a-vis the changes being made. Each of us will not only survive this time, but make his own contribution to it. And I am hoping that journalists will support energetic and positive activities, taking advantage of the new opportunities they have been given and aware that they must be uncompromising in their attitudes. Their job is to be memorable, historical, insightful, and a little ahead of everyone else. And what else should they do? Speak out.

13189

CSO: 1800/393

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

ABSTRACTS ON MARXIST-LENINIST HISTORY

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI V SSSR; SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI (REFERATIVNYY ZHURNAL) in Russian No 5, Sep-Oct 86 (signed to press 29 Jul 86) pp 185-190

[Abstracts by M. S. Elport]

[Text] 86.05.065. Iovchuk, M. T., Andreyev, A. L., and Maslin, M. A. "Timely Issues of Research in the History of Marxism-Leninism, Its Philosophy, and the Philosophical Thought of the Peoples of the USSR," VOPROSY FILOSOFII, No 1, 1986, PP 56-73

Analyzing the ideological-philosophical heritage of the classics of Marxism-Leninism in light of contemporary conditions, Soviet philosophers in recent years have made notable progress in their analysis of such important theoretical problems as the relationship of the sociophilosophical theory of Marxism and the real historical process, change in the social structure of society under conditions of different social systems, exacerbation of the class struggle in antagonistic societies, the alliance of philosophy with natural science on the basis of new scientific discoveries, expansion of the social functions of science to solve global problems of the present day, and others. "Special studies of the history of Marxist-Leninist philosophy have received a significant place in Soviet science" (p 60). Detailed attention was given to the philosophical and political views of the leading Marxist theoreticians of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, such as A. Bebel, F. Mehring, P. Lafarge, A. Labriola, G.V. Plekhanov, K. Liebknecht, R. Luxemburg, and D. Blagoyev. Studies of the philosophical heritage of V. I. Lenin also moved ahead significantly.

Similar developmental work in contemporary Soviet sciences is done on the basis of studying the dialectical nature of the materials of Marx, Engels, and Lenin and comparing the Marxist-Leninist philosophical tradition with various non-Marxist ideological schools by identifying the criteria that permit a clear ideological delineation of Marxism from various pseudo-Marxist ideas. The genesis and history of Leninism is also considered in connection with interpretation of the various schools of Russian philosophical and sociopolitical thought. In addition a certain advance is observed in Marxist treatment of idealistic schools in the history of domestic philosophy. "One result was a graphic confirmation of the superiority of Marxist-Leninist

methodology even in application to the history of Russian religious philosophy, which Sovietologists consider their own monopoly" (p 70).

86.05.066. Kasymzhanov, A. Kh, "V. I. Lenin on Hegel's Dialectical Method (Through the Pages of the 'Philosophical Notebooks')," VOPROSY FILOSOFII, No 2, 1985, pp 3-12

Lenin's reading of Hegel was very edifying. Lenin's thoughts "on the occasion" of Hegel's logic have exceptional and independent value. They compel us to become more deeply conscious of the integrated nature of the theoretical system of Marxism-Leninism and the significance of the materialist dialectic in this system as the spiritual essence, the method of thinking. The revolutionary, class, party-minded point of view on economic, social, political, and cultural processes taking place in the world is the starting point of this method. "The strength of the dialectical method and the dialectical way of thinking lies in its unbreakable link with real life and in the constant renewal of this link, which is oriented to uncovering and realizing the highest human aspirations and potentials" (p 12).

86.05.067. Pustarnakov, V. F. "Historical Prerequisites of the Spread of Marxism in Russia and the Beginning of the Leninist Phase of the Development of Marxism," VOPROSY FILOSOFII, No 2, 1985, pp 13-28

Progressive Russian thought in pre-reform (1840's-1860's) Russian experienced some influence from certain Marxist ideas. This influence was sporadic, irregular, and not deep, and it was restricted to a narrow group of people. "It is symbolic, however, that the first acquaintance of Russian thinkers with the ideas of the founders of Marxism took place at the very start of the 1840's, in other words at the time when Marx and Engels themselves were just defining themselves as theoreticians of scientific communism" (p 16).

In post-reform Russia of the 1870's the ideas of Marxism had already spread on a much broader scale "than could have been expected from a country whose worker movement was still very underdeveloped" (p 21). The degree and depth of Marxism's influence could not, of course, develop correspondingly because Russia still had no developed worker movement or worker party.

By the 1890's the necessary conditions had taken shape for a qualitatively new period in the history of Marxism in Russia, for the establishment of an independent Marxist school of Russian social thought. At the moment when Lenin entered the revolutionary movement, Marxism was already becoming an independent school of Russian social thought and a part of the worker movement. Lenin opened a "new stage, not only in the history of Marxism in Russia, but also in the history of international Marxism" (p 28).

86.05.068. Shabalin, V. A. "Leninism in the Formation of the Philosophical Views of A. Gramsci," NAUCH. DOKL. VYSSH. SHK. FILOS. NAUKI No 1, 1985, pp 90-98

Antonio Gramsci, the founder of the Italian Communist Party, occupies a prominent place among leading theoreticians of the Leninist school. Many ideas advanced by Gramsci in the 20's and 30's of the 19th Century [sic] go

far beyond the framework of the specific political problems of Italian society. They give impetus to resolve many pressing questions facing the contemporary world communist movement as a whole. For example, parts of A. Gramsci's creative heritage such as the ideas of "static [positional] warfare," "the hegemony of the proletariat," and others made a significant imprint on development of the contemporary strategy and tactics of the communist parties in the developed capitalist countries. "For Gramsci Leninism was not just a rebirth and elaboration of Marxist theory in new historical conditions, but also a method for working out revolutionary politics" (p 96).

86.05.069. Merzon, L. S., and Osipov, V. I., "Some Timely Problems of Leninist Analysis of the Materialism of Natural Science (On the 115th Anniversary of V. I. Lenin's Birth)," NAUCH. DOKL. VYSSH. SHK. FILOS. NAUKI No 2, 1985, pp 27-34

It was not accidental that V. I. stressed that conscious introduction of dialectical materialist principles in natural science and a real alliance between them can only be fully realized where nature and society are considered in the same way. For natural scientists this means they must not only understand and follow general philosophical materialist principles, but also must master historical materials; for philosophy it means the unity of the sciences of nature and society in substantiating the principles of materialism and dialectics. This last requirement is especially timely today. It reaffirms once more the immutable value and scientific significance of Lenin's ideas, which are the foundation for the development of dialectical materialist philosophy.

86.05.070. Sitkovskiy, Ye. P., "V. I. Lenin's 'Philosophical Notebooks' and Contemporary Times," NAUCH. DOKL. VYSSH. SHK. FILOS. NAUKI No 4, 1985, pp 27-32

V. I. Lenin, consistently and fiercely defending the idea of party-minded philosophy, always followed the idea of an unbreakable tie between philosophical science and reality, activity, the social struggle and politics. In the author's opinion, this can be expressed thus: in Marxist-Leninist philosophy there are always two interlinked tasks, (1) application of the philosophical principles of dialectical and historical materialism to various fields of sciences and practice in the revolutionary struggle and socialist construction and (2) development of the philosophy of dialectical and historical materialism as a systematic science based on the current level of scientific knowledge and experience with the class struggle of the proletariat in the capitalism countries and socialist construction in the countries that were already liberated from capitalism. V. I. Lenin's writings combined these two -- the practical and the theoretical-- aspects brilliantly; he performs these two tasks simultaneously and in complete unity. "Marxist philosophy today is simply inconceivable without Lenin's philosophical ideas, which enriched Marxism and moved it far ahead" (p 32).

86.05.071. Kolevator, V. A., "Analysis of the Functions of Money in K. Marx's 'Das Kapital' and Methodology of Investigating Sign Systems," NAUCH. DOKL. VYSSH. SHK. FILOS. NAUKI No 4, 1985, pp 33-40

The methodology for investigating a broad range of social phenomena, and ultimately society as a whole, used in the works of K. Marx, F. Engels, and V. I. Lenin serves as a guideline for analyzing the most diverse phenomena and processes of social life.

On this level the approach used by K. Marx in analyzing the role of money in commodity exchange is very productive for the study of sign systems. While investigating the nature of money as a sign, K. Marx formulated a number of fundamental principles which can be related to all other sign systems that have occurred in the development of society.

While emphasizing the objective necessity of the appearance of money in the historical development of exchange and commodity production, at the same time K. Marx points to the role of the thinking, abstracting activity of individuals who participate in production and exchange. In the opinion of the author, the main points (applicable to sign problems) of Marx's analysis of the origin and functions of money in the exchange process (in the original version of 'Das Kapital') are as follows: (1) the sign has a material existence subject to sensory perception; (2) the sign of money symbolizes and expresses value, a certain social relationship; (3) this social relationship, taken by itself and isolated from the individual who in fact realize it is an abstraction; (4) therefore, the sign is a realization of an abstraction. "Relying on these points it can be stated that any sign system that has been objectivized in the products of human activity is a means of interaction among people, carries the imprint of abstracting mental activity, and functions within definite social relations" (p 40).

COPYRIGHT; INION AN SSSR

11176

CSO: 1830/394

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

BOOK ON PHILOSOPHY OF USING INFORMATION IN MANAGEMENT REVIEWED

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI (REFERATIVNIY ZHURNAL) in Russian No 5, Sep-Oct 86 (signed to press 29 Jul 86) pp 11-15

[Review by V. Molchanov of book "Informatsiya i upravleniye: Filosofsko-metodologicheskiye aspekty" (Information and Management: Philosophical-Methodological Aspects), edited by L.G. Antipenko and V. I. Kremyanskiy, USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy, Moscow, "Nauka", 1985, 285 pages]

[Text] This book has three sections. It analyzes the characteristic features of control in natural processes. Special attention is devoted to an adequate definition of the elementary form of self-control and self-reproduction. The idea of optimality of decision-making and the conclusion of the necessity of taking integrated effects into account in system functioning are analyzed.

The first section is entitled "Information Activity and Control in Society." The article "Effectiveness of Social Control: the Systems-Activity Approach" shows that the theory of effectiveness of control for the development of social production cannot be formulated on the basis of cybernetic approaches because they are too general and abstract; the methodological basis of this theory is the systems-activity approach as the most general approach and, at the same time, one which captures the specific features of control processes in the social form of the movement of matter. One of the tasks of improving the processes of control in society is using the effect of the interaction of individual objects of control and their organization as a system, which is called synergetic (V. G. Astafyev and A. D. Ursuya, pp 5-27).

The article "Methodological Foundations of the Theory of Decision-Making" notes that the objective laws of nature and society point out only the general features of the passage of processes, but in practice one must act in concrete conditions and often it is not known in advance which line of action will be optimal. It is this very situation of uncertainty that forces one to evaluate the consequences of different conclusions or alternatives of action. The evaluation may be done by constructing an appropriate mathematical model. Various models of this type are studied in decision-making theory (G. I. Ruzavin, pp 28-46).

The article "The Thesaurus Approach to Communications Processes and Documentary Information" analyzes a number of new aspects in contemporary gnoseological problems. After reviewing the gnoseological characteristics of the concepts of "document" and "thesaurus" and their functioning in the communicative-cognitive process from the standpoint of their information value, the authors evaluate the transmission of documentary information as a gnoseological process and outline ways to work out an economic theory of information processes (B. V. Biryukov and G. G. Vorobyev, pp 47-69).

The article "Analysis of Some Basic Concepts of Control of Large Manmade Systems" considers various aspects of the definition of a "large manmade system." A large system cannot be represented by one model; it requires a complex hierarchy of models, which can be characterized as a series of problems and concepts. The main concept is the goal, and the primary content of the article is devoted to consideration of this concept from the standpoint of the systems and information approaches (Yu. G. Gorskiy, pp 69-99).

The article "Intellectual Technology in Control: Experiment with Sociocritical Analysis" speaks of the difficulties and shortcomings of using information technology in control. Thus far the attention given to establishing the limits of applicability of intellectual technology in control has been inadequate; there has been more discussion of triumphs, and failures are not mentioned. Specifically, many failures result from incorrect wording of the tasks that are posed for computers, and the entire range of possible wordings must be considered to overcome these difficulties. Preliminary assessment of the situation and selection of relevant information are important here. The negative phenomena noted in the article relate primarily to introduction of computers in the organizational structure of control, whereas the introduction of automated control systems for industrial processes is entirely free of these anomalies (Yu. V. Orfeyev, pp 100-121).

The second section, entitled "Information and Control in Natural Processes," begins with the article "The Elementary 'Cell' of the Control Process and Self-Reproduction." An attempt has been made in the literature to apply the dialectical method of investigation to solving the problem of cybernetics and biology linked to defining the elementary foundations of the process of self-control and self-reproduction. At first the elementary "cell" of movement, whose formal structure coincides with the formal structure of Russell's antinomy, which represents the general and the unique in contradictory form, was identified. Then this cell was modified so that it took account of the irreversibility of movement and development. After this the general as a species was converted to the concrete-general, forcing the unique to interact with it as with an integrated formation. "It would appear reasonable to see the elementary cell of self-control and self-reproduction in the dialectical unity of the concrete-general and the unique, the species and the individual, when the behavior of the unique individual becomes governed by similar laws to the whole that has the function of the species" (p 160) (L> G> Antipenko and V. I. Kremyanskiy, pp 122-168).

The article "The Interdependence of Energy, Information, and Entropy in the Processes of Control and Self-Organization" notes that information flows

circulate by direct and feedback channels in all control processes. But this does not exhaust the processes of control, because the result of the transmission of commands is not only information but also energy effects of the organs of the controlled object. The power of the pulses here, which are counted in thousandths of a watt, are adequate to set in motion organs of the controlled object whose power may run into hundreds and thousands of kilowatts: the energy expended on movement of the controlled organs comes from other sources, not from the control pulses. The answer to the question, what is the minimum amount of energy needed to exert all essential information effects on a complex controlled object, is found in general ratios that relate the quantity of information to energy and the physical entropy of the systems being analyzed; these ratios are applicable not only to preformed information systems but also to the processes of self-organization and evolutionary development of the most diverse systems (Ye. A. Sedov, pp 169-193).

The article "Levels and Functions of the Information Activity of Biological Control Systems" is devoted to an analysis of control processes in living organisms. As a rule, analyses in the past have begun from the idea that studying the physical and chemical processes of biological systems ensures complete disclosure of the mechanisms of these phenomena. The problem has now emerged of social investigation of the levels of organization of information systems and the principles of interaction, which is closely linked to solving a number of methodological questions. The authors present a method of identifying the organization of information systems and give examples of disclosing the information systems of living organisms. The particular and general methodological problems that arise in this are analyzed. (A. V. Napalkov and N. V. Tselkova, pp 193-221).

The third section is entitled "General Scientific and Philosophical Aspects of the Concept of Information and Control." The article "The Information Approach to Knowledge of Reality and Control" reviews the basic features of the information approach, whose inception was initially inspired by the development of information theory. This theory sets as its goal a consideration of the formal quantitative characteristics of information transfer. With this approach information theory could not be the basis for an information approach to knowledge of the qualitatively different phenomena of reality in all its breadth, and this role was assumed by cybernetics, which revealed the common fundamental structural basis of the processes of communications and control in qualitatively different spheres of reality: in living nature, society, and human knowledge. But other methods also play an enormous part in the development of the cybernetic approach, in particular mathematical formalization and integration of scientific knowledge, development of general systems theory, presentation of the style of thinking, and progress in philosophical-methodological research (E.P. Semenyuk, pp 222-244).

The article "On the Question of the Nature of Control" notes that it is still too early to speak of the existence of a single reliably worked out picture of the nature of control. Control today is primarily taken to mean a purposeful information effect of the controlling subsystem on the controlled subsystem, exercised by a scheme with feedback, and it is considered here that on the basis of depiction of the state of the system and the environment, control

determines the need for progressive development of the entire system of influence and the conditions of actualizing its basic activity.

After a brief review of the evaluations, under discussion in Western literature, of information as some kind of "third factor" that is neutral and intermediate between spirit and matter, the author of the article "Confrontation between Materialism and Idealism on the Problem of Information" believes that "In quantum theory contemporary physics has discovered a new type of relationship which cannot be reduced to a power interaction even though physicists do call it an interaction, adding the modifier 'non-power.' And it is this relation, unknown to natural science in the 19th Century, or this non-power interaction, which lies at the foundation of those phenomena that are described by the concepts of reflection and information" (p 279) (M. Yankov, Bulgaria, pp 274-283).

COPYRIGHT; INION AN SSSR

11176

CSO: 1830/394

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

LIFE OF AZERI NATIONALITY THEORETICIAN REVIEWED

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 22 January 1987 carries on page 3 a 2400-word article by D. Guliyev, director of the Party History Institute of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee and Dr.Hist.Sci., on the life of Ruhulla Akhundov (born 1897); the article is headlined "Faithful Leninist." Akhundov, a prominent Bolshevik, "was summoned to Moscow in January 1920 to inform the RCP(b) about the question of unifying the three Bolshevik organizations--the Baku organization of the RCP(b), Hummat, and Adalet--into a single Azerbaijan Communist Party (Bolshevik). The single Azerbaijan Communist Bolshevik Party was established at its first secret congress in Baku in February 1920." It was thus positioned to take power after the Bolshevik takeover of Azerbaijan in April 1920. The biographical sketch adds that "at the 10th Party Congress R. Akhundov was elected to the commission which was preparing a provisional resolution on the national question. Speaking at the congress, he demonstrated that Azerbaijan's Bolsheviks considered the strengthening of friendship and unity with Soviet Russia to be their primary internationalist duty. He assured the congress that Azerbaijan's proletariat would stand firm as the avant-garde of the revolution in the East."

HISTORY OF AZERI SCIENCE NEGLECTED

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 16 January 1987 carries on page 2 a 2300-word article by Professor Aghababa Rzayev on the importance of the study of Azeri contributions to world science, especially in the medieval period, and on the need for the Academy of Sciences to plan and coordinate the development of these studies; the article's title is "The History of Science Is the People's History." He claims that "to tell the truth, we have to say that the study of Azerbaijan's history of science is not in good shape. The study of the most fundamental, most contemporary problems is in unsatisfactory condition. The stages of development of different sciences in different centuries have not yet even been defined. All encompassing monographic works on prominent scientists do not exist, and the publication of scientific sources is in poor condition." Emphasizing the need for such studies in the history of a number of scientific and philosophical fields, he adds that "this is not the work of 5, 10 or 15 years. But we have to begin them now."

IRANIAN AZERI NATIONAL LIBERATION POET REMEMBERED

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 16 January 1987 carries on page 8 a 1200-word memoir by Latif Huseynov headlined "Mirmehdi Chavushi," an Iranian Azeri poet who flourished during the period of the Soviet Army's occupation of Iranian Azerbaijan (1941-1946). The memoir, which describes Huseynov's acquaintanceship with Chavushi in Tabriz in 1944-1945, begins with an editorial introduction stating that Chavushi "worked in responsible positions in the Tudeh and the Azerbaijan Democratic Party. After the victory of the national government in Southern Azerbaijan, Chavushi took up his pen to serve his own people and fatherland. The poet's poetry was published in VATAN YOLUNDA, the newspaper AZARBAYJAN, and a number of other publications."

PROMINENT AZERI LANGUAGE NATIONALIST DIES IN IRAN

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 16 January 1987 carries on page 8 a 600-word obituary by Khuraman Guliyeva for the prominent Iranian Azeri writer, physician, and linguist Salamulla Javid. She notes that "Salamulla Javid was one of the organizers of the 'Meeting of Friends' council. In the years of terrible reaction the importance of the 'Meeting of Friends,' which was active during the period when the Azeri language was banned, was major. The 'Meeting of Friends' council was organized in 1964 with the aim of bringing together friends and like-minded people in one place. The council began to meet regularly in the home of one of the friends. Through the efforts of S. Javid the 'Meeting of Friends' took on the character of a literary council. At this time S. Javid, together with the famous Southern Azeri poet Mirmehdi E'timad, wrote a grammar of the Azeri language called 'Sarfi-Nahv' which they published under the pseudonym 'Jad' to conceal the authorship." The obituary adds that Javid was also able to obtain ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT "Through secret channels" and circulated it among members of the council.

IMPORTANCE OF SEMIOTICS IN SUFI POETRY ANALYZED

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 20 February 1987 carries on page 6 a 1200-word review by Rahim Aliyev of Niyazi Mehdiyev's "The Esthetic Culture of Medieval Azerbaijan" (Ishyg, 1986, in Azeri) headlined "Research on our Medieval Culture." The monograph is one of the first written in Azeri in which a semiotic method is applied. The reviewer explains the use of the semiotic method through the author's discussion of the analysis of Sufi poetry. "In Sufi and Hurufi poetry the facade of beauty is contoured to the written page, and many written markers are created. At the same time, the external implications of these images for the objects so marked have no importance. These imitation symbols appear strange to a modern reader who is distant from classical poetry. But semiotic analysis makes it clear that these strange-looking symbols constituted a language unto themselves in medieval poetry." He adds that "this was poetry requiring definite intellectual preparation and differs from the oral poetry created by the people."

/12913

CSO: 1830/435

CULTURE

RSFSR WRITERS CRITICAL OF OGONEK, MOSCOW NEWS

Moscow LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 pp 2-4

[Unattributed report under the rubric "In the Secretariat of the Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union": "Restructuring--Will, Courage and Responsibility"; first paragraph is LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA introduction]

[Text] On 17 March a meeting of the Secretariat of the Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union was held at which the tasks of Russia's writers in light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee's January (1987) Plenum were discussed.

The meeting was opened by S. Mikhalkov, chairman of the Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union. The CPSU Central Committee plenum, he said, raised in extremely acute fashion the question of the reasons for and essence of stagnant phenomena and other phenomena alien to socialism in the life of Soviet society in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and the ways to overcome them. Thus, the concern was, among other things, about us and our activity connected, on the whole, with the development and improvement of the RSFSR's multinational literature.

The party places great hopes on Soviet literature and the creative intelligentsia in an extremely important process--the process of moving public awareness to a qualitatively different stage: the concept of socialist culture must be worked out on a new ideological and philosophical level.

Soviet literature's turn to the questions of morality and concern with the individual can only be welcomed. Historical experience has shown that restructuring and the renewal of life by social means alone that are not reinforced by the moral work of each person cannot produce the desired results. Another tendency is also noticeable in literature: Morality is beginning to crowd out the social dimension and civic-mindedness and becoming an end in itself and turning into a fashion.

I would like now to recall the words of Fedor Abramov, who wrote that to listen to some "clever people, you would think that the social dimension and civic-mindedness were practically a stage we had left behind and that, say, such a thing as politics is altogether a sign of primitiveness and lack of taste. This is a great error. Morality apart from the social dimension, and

civic-mindedness apart from the urgent problems of economics by which the country, the people and the party live--morality, finally, apart from politics, which has become one of the main spheres of 20th-century man's existence, such morality is empty and immoral chatter."

This statement by the late Abramov was prophetic in the full sense of the word.

The plenum's resolution states that successes should not obscure such a fact as that in the late '70s and early '80s the country began to lose speed in its forward movement. We, a kind of staff of Russia's writers' organization, should recognize this clearly from the standpoint of both our public activity and our individual activities. The plenum noted the extremely great importance of the fact that the party has found the strength and courage within itself to adopt a course of restructuring. Therefore, the matter is also up to our courage and our will and responsibility.

Our ultimate goal is to illuminate all aspects of the life of Soviet society, to give socialism the most up-to-date forms of social organization, and to disclose the writer's creative potential as fully as possible.

Our duty is to enrich society's spiritual life and create works of talent that are truthful and reflect our activities in all their variety and grandeur. We must resolutely oppose the ideological and cultural aggression of imperialism, which strives to foist off on us, above all, false values that are alien to humanism.

We are called on to treat talent with solicitude and respect and, at the same time, in a party-minded fashion, to assist the artistic process in a principled manner, and to promote public initiative and the development of criticism and self-criticism.

However, criticism sometimes reaches the point that we read in the press words of an insulting nature directed at people who have done a great deal for the Soviet regime. And there have been many examples of this.

An end must be put to this. And it is no accident that Comrade Ye. K. Ligachev said at a meeting in Saratov that it is necessary to take a solicitous attitude toward talented people who have, through their creative work, established a place for themselves in our culture, in general, and in literature. Now many people are already prepared simply not to notice people who wear Stars, USSR People's Artists, etc. This is a very disturbing fact, comrades. Sometimes time-servers, speculators, untalented persons and very shady people hide behind the slogans, "long live openness; long live restructuring!" and also leave for other spheres of human relations.

Incompetent interference in intensely creative processes, sympathies and antipathies based on personal taste, and the replacement of the methods of ideological influence with administrative decisions are impermissible in the guidance of artistic creativity.

Writers must even further strengthen the ties between people of letters and labor collectives and, consequently, ties with the practice of communist construction. Each of us knows from experience what visits, sponsorship, etc. provide and do not provide. And therefore, it would be very good if every writer who is able to speak and able to establish personal contacts with readers would meet with his audience more often in order that these meetings might influence our literature and the reader. Moreover, the writer would see for whom exactly he writes and what he writes, and what people want to read and hear.

We still have such difficulties--which really does point to both formalism and the obsolete nature of certain traditions that have been established but exist more on paper than in reality--whereby people merely hide behind the facts of sponsorship, activeness, etc. Nonetheless, in the area of creative contacts with the working people, invigorating reconnaissance in force should be continued actively and widely. And our secretariat should support this, for this is support for all the points in the resolution of the party Central Committee's plenum.

I believe that for the most part we should proceed from the following:

the more thorough democratization of Soviet society is a lever for the enlistment in restructuring of its decisive force--the people;

the intensification of oversight "from above" and, especially, "from below" of the activities of our writing personnel and management agencies is a mandatory condition for the democratization of society;

the organic combination of democracy and discipline, independence and responsibility, rights and duties is the principal, definitive feature of socialist democracy;

the struggle against any and all manifestations of nationalism and chauvinism is also a principled, Leninist position;

the timely resolution of pressing personnel questions; the provision of continuity and a continuous influx of fresh forces;

the attitude toward restructuring and, not in words but in deeds, active creative participation in it and real deeds are the decisive criterion for evaluating personnel;

Soviet culture, literature and art in a struggle for the psychological restructuring of the masses and the moral health of the people--that should be the substance of our everyday work.

In his speech S. Mikhalkov also touched on diverse aspects of the secretariat's activity in directing the writers' organization of the multinational Russian Federation with the aim of improving talents and broadly enlisting literary figures in the daily concerns of society connected with the most burning issues of restructuring.

In conclusion S. Mikha'kov said that Russia's writers should build up their vital public and artistic energy and manifest it conclusively. This, in fact, will be restructuring in the sphere of professional literary activity.

V. Dementyev, secretary of the Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union, presented a report "The Tasks of Russia's Writers in Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee's January (1987) Plenum."

I shall not speak in detail about the tremendous impression that the materials of our party Central Committee's plenum that was held at the end of this January have made and continue to make on us. I shall only recall in part those points in the report by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on which I shall rely in what follows in examining certain aspects of our present-day literary life. They are, first of all, that stagnant phenomena have also manifested themselves in society's spiritual life, and that superficial notions of communism have contributed a great deal to the fact that some of our young people have become, unfortunately, utterly indifferent to a whole series of lofty concepts. Also greatly disturbing is the fact that socialist property has turned out at a certain moment to be, as it were, "no one's." This theme is a principal one and, in my view, extremely important for our public-affairs writing. Herein lies the root of tremendous, as Mayakovskiy once said, "expenses" and "losses" in the sphere of both our industrial and agricultural production.

I would also like to recall that in the materials of the CPSU Central Committee's January Plenum it is stated: the existence of "leveling," on the one hand, and, on the other, the rewarding of people with unwarranted, large monetary bonuses has also not contributed to the moral health of our present-day society. It was emphasized equally concretely at the CPSU Central Committee plenum that manifestations of spiritual emptiness and consumerism occur among us. And that is something that we writers, in meeting with today's young people, also feel extremely keenly and painfully. "The ideology and psychology of stagnation," noted M. S. Gorbachev, "have also been reflected in the state of the sphere of culture, literature and art. Standards have declined in appraisals of artistic creativity." And further: "The penetration into Soviet society of stereotypes from bourgeois mass culture, which foists off vulgarity, primitive tastes and spiritual emptiness, has intensified."

In discussing the situation in the sphere of belles lettres and the situation in our Russian literature, we are obliged to be guided by these principled directives.

I would also like to dwell on Comrade Ye. K. Ligachev's recent speech in Saratov, where he expressed what is, in my view, the important idea that we should not forget the many years of experience of our classic Soviet literature. Not only not forget but, I think, turn to it again and again from today's perspective and disclose the inexhaustible richness of our prose, poetry and drama of previous decades.

Unfortunately, in present-day criticism there is a noticeable tendency that would cut off, as it were, significant phenomena of prose and poetry that we have called Soviet classics. But it is precisely now that we should take a new look at the work of such complex writers as, for example, Andrey Platonov. Or at the work of such poets as Yaroslav Smelyakov, who in our understanding exists only as a bard of the workers' theme, which is perfectly true; but Smelyakov is also a profound lyric poet; he historically interpreted not only the "ups and downs" of his own biography but also the complex situations that arose in our public life in the '40s and '50s. Unquestionably, we should understand all this and realize it anew.

Let me also say that the appearance in print of A. Tvardovskiy's narrative poem "By Right of Memory" demands great inner ideological and aesthetic culture on the part of any writer and any critic, because the poem, which lay unpublished for nearly 20 years, should exist not just as a historical and literary fact, but also as the poet's great pain, which even today should arouse and trouble the conscience of readers, especially young ones, for Tvardovskiy also addressed it to his young contemporary audience.

In today's conditions the role of literary and art criticism in all spheres of art has greatly increased. However, I get the feeling that our criticism is sometimes simply unprepared to accomplish its tasks, because a whole series of theoretical concepts needed for the present day simply do not exist. For example, for many years running our academic criticism and our scholars discussed the problem of socialist realism as an open system. A good many spheres were broken, and there were both opponents and supporters of this system. But today, when the most complex works in terms of their means of artistic expression and metaphorical structures are acquiring a huge readership, it is self-evident that our creative method never was "closed" for works that not only strictly reflect reality but transform it, i.e., that are based on grotesque, fantasy, etc.

That is how our literary scholarship has, with regard to the present day, discovered its lag behind life, because it is clear to everyone that the means of artistic depiction of the world should not and never have been restricted merely to impoverished verisimilitude.

Present-day literary criticism, in my opinion, is still not prepared to introduce a whole series of artistic phenomena, which, of course, must be introduced into the context of the times, and not restricted just to the fact itself--for example, the fact of the publication of Nabokov's novels or his rather mediocre poetry.

I think that one must remember that an outstanding artistic work is capable even of answering those questions that may not have been asked at the time of its creation but that may be asked by subsequent generations.

It seems to me that the 150th anniversary of the tragic death of Pushkin, in part, showed that our literary scholarship and literary criticism were insufficiently prepared internally for this event. I personally remember 1937 (I was a teenager at the time) and the 100th anniversary of Aleksandr Sergeyevich's death. At that time, for example, the idea of Pushkin's kinship

with the people and his line, "and every tongue within it shall speak my name," ran through every article in the press. That idea had tremendous influence on our society's spiritual development in the prewar years.

And what questions were raised this year? There was, for example, endless discussion of the details of the duel--a tragic fact, of course, but one that does not contribute all that much to the understanding of Pushkin that the present day requires. There was endless emphasis in the press--in my view, to the point of tactlessness--on whether Natalya Nikolayevna Pushkina had a romance, figuratively speaking, with d'Anthes. Imagine, a great poet placed himself before a bullet, and 150 years later we can't think of anything else but to drag out this idle talk onto an all-union forum!

Blok said that the reader's interest in a writer must be developed not through his biography but through his works, which do not negate the biological aspect.

In my view, the animated film based on Pushkin's drawings that was shown on television recently was absolute blasphemy. Also blasphemous was what those who organized one activity devoted to Pushkin's memory managed to dream up. Oleg Kochetkov wrote about this in the newspaper MOSKOVSKIY LITERATOR:

"And then the 'presentation' began. Young men in black capes and black top hats with burning torches in their hands. We shuddered: a torch procession on the day of death! One had to go a long way to think that up! A kibitka drove out, and in it was a five- to seven-year-old boy wearing a white top hat and a white cape, evidently portraying Pushkin as a child. Okudzhava's song about "Aleksandr Sergeyevich" poured out of a loudspeaker. And then a young man, also dressed entirely in black, came out on stilts carrying a live white rooster on one hand, in the manner of an organ-grinder with a parrot, and then gypsies sang and danced, and there was a duel scene, and girls in theater costumes portraying some sort of sculpture groups from Pushkin's works, and swirling steam from behind the shuttered and lighted windows of a little house with columns."

And this is what took place during the days of the 150th anniversary of the poet's tragic death in Neskuchnyy Garden.

Yet it would not have hurt us to recall not just the words of Gogol: "Pushkin is a phenomenon, an extreme and perhaps unique phenomenon of the Russian spirit: he is a Russian fellow in his development, in which he may appear in 200 years." We also need to remember that Pushkin's art, Pushkin's poetry, is our philosophical and aesthetic wealth, which must be regarded from today's perspective. We must remember that approaching Pushkin is extremely complicated, and that here enormous spiritual culture is needed for everyone who wants to understand the true significance of the genius.

Unfortunately, none of this occurred. And I believe--once more, unfortunately--that Pushkin's Days of Memory failed to advance our society to a new stage in its spiritual movement.

In speaking of spirituality in our present-day culture, I would like also to cite a gratifying happening: the dialogue on television between Leonid Leonov and Yuriy Bondarev, which touched on subjects pertaining to the spiritual content of our present-day life in a broad and multileveled fashion.

Lenin, said V. Dementyev in conclusion, had a remarkable idea to the effect that the international is not the nationally neutral. In reflecting on the multinational nature of present-day Russian literature, I think that every writer in his creative work should give primary importance to the dialectical unity of the universally human, the international and the national. I am convinced that the essence of the spirituality about which we are now thinking and speaking so much is embodied precisely in this dialectical triad.

N. Shundik devoted his speech to the like-mindedness of writers. In identifying our like-mindedness, he said, courage is necessary, as it has always been necessary. The problem is that the slightest objection against any kind of crazy ideas is interpreted by tiresomely persistent people as an attempt to stop the revolutionary process, an attempt to preserve everything in the old form that is repugnant to us. Nonetheless, it sometimes happens that it is necessary to manifest courage and to say things that may be distorted by foes, and the distorted opinion may cause you considerable damage.

But let's not think about damage; let us talk about what your civic essence is. It seems to me that the identification of our like-mindedness is the main thing. Here is the litmus test: there is our idea, and there are people who distort it. Our enemy's strategic goal is to prove that our idea and those who have distorted it are one and the same thing.

Our task--it has always been such, and now, especially, it should be such--is to demonstrate that Lenin's idea is one thing, and the people who distort it are an entirely different matter.

And now this overriding philosophical task in our works, our articles and speeches, and our manner of behavior is of the highest importance.

Many processes taking place at the present time recall what took place immediately after the 20th Party Congress. At that time I said at a literary gathering that some of us were confusing two things: the wind filling the sails of our ship, which was sailing forward, was one thing; rocking the ship was another. Some of our "revolutionaries" are passing off rocking the boat as a revolutionary process, whereas it is necessary, in order to be a sailor, to correctly direct the sails so that they will catch the main wind of the era, the wind that will truly lead our ship where it needs to go.

It seems to me that our like-mindedness will be identified quite definitely if we see that the person, the artist, believes that there is the truth of the isolated fact, and there is truth in the larger sense. After all, what is our enemy trying to do? To dig an unbridgeable ditch between the truth of fact and truth in the larger sense. Truth in the larger exists when the facts are arranged in a definite dialectical series, whereas isolated facts--facts, moreover, which are illuminated in a certain way by the ideological spotlights

of our enemy--are, especially if they are dishonestly and skillfully juggled, which is the basis of all dissident literature, entirely a different matter.

And our enemy tries to dig this very canyon between the truth of fact and truth in the larger sense, to throw us in it, as into a grave, and bury us.

So the person I consider to be like-minded is the one who will on no account allow a ditch to be dug between the truth of fact and truth in the larger sense.

The floor was turned over to A. Keshokov. The fact that courage has been a characteristic feature of Soviet literature at all stages of its development is an indisputable truth. I think that if we asked today who was the first to say "watch out!" we would go a long way back. And that which is offered as a courageous admission today, we can find in the books of many writers, and not only those who are living and working at the present time but those who are no longer alive. And I think that if we looked back to many literary characters and gave them their due from the perspective of the present day, I think that would be correct. That would fit into the channel of the restructuring of our entire literary process. Indeed, it does honor to our literature; after all, a lot of that which we are repudiating today was expressed long ago. We need to look back over the path we have covered and illuminate with the light of our ideas those works whose authors took a risk at a time when they really needed to have civic courage to speak about that. Today it no longer sounds like something that requires courage, but it did then. If a given book was labeled as distorting reality at that time, and subsequently it has turned out that this book actually defined the character of its times, that book is already part of the treasury of the people's spiritual culture.

Therefore, I think that we should return to such books and carry out a kind of reappraisal of artistic values.

Today certain names are being returned to literature. I believe this lies in the channel of restructuring, but these works, which sounded forth long ago, should not be printed in magazines. In my opinion, this pertains to "Doctor Zhivago." Pasternak's novel should not be printed in a magazine, and an unnecessary fuss should not be created. It should be published as a separate book.

It seems to me, A. Keshokov noted further, that it is natural when people who are young in age come to literature and bring their own stream, their own energy, their own understanding, their own viewpoint, etc. All this is understandable. But I think that under this guise many want to lower the criterion of artistic value and open the way to mediocrity. I think that this must be regarded with great cautiousness.

It seems to me that we need to take a calmer view of the fact that someone expresses an opinion with which we disagree. Such a struggle of opinions is simply essential. But some demagogue may raise so many questions in the name of further democratization that even 10 democrats could not answer them.

The floor was given to P. Proskurin. I want to say that certain of our critics are using methods unacceptable for our times--hooligan methods. Thus, for example, MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, a newspaper that comes out abroad and tells people there about our internal life, printed an interview with T. Tolstaya. In reply to the correspondent's provocational question, "Aren't you afraid to turn up in the same company with such a fierce opponent of women's liberation as the writer Vasiliiy Belov and his novel 'Vse vpered!' [Everything Lies Ahead]?" she said:

"I willingly believe that Belov wrote his book with the best of motives, but something misanthropic turned out. It's a protest against woman as such, and not just against the costs of women's liberation. The very fact of woman's existence arouses malice in him and a desire to destroy her, to prevent her from breathing and moving. The view of woman as a vessel of evil smacks of sanctimoniousness, which is even the more awkward for such a master as Belov."

And at the end of the interview, that Tolstaya, speaking about a shortcoming that she is inclined to forgive, replied:

"Everything can be forgiven, except misanthropy."

It seems to me that such cases should not be overlooked by our criticism. It is inconceivable to call a writer who belongs to those who are called the conscience of Russia a misanthrope, and to say this with an aim toward foreign interests and actions is something bad.

I see in this a kind of manifestation of the boulevard manner in our press.

This case of Belov simply shook me up so much personally, because this is no longer our morality and our press, and God only knows what is happening. And there have been many such cases.

Lately the magazine OGONEK has been behaving in an extremely strange fashion. This magazine is designated as a "weekly sociopolitical and literary and art magazine," i.e., as a publication that, one must suppose, is all-union. Then why is it that lately a spirit of cliquishness, even of some sort of closed caste, such as we have not seen for a long time in our country--say, since the '20s--has manifested itself more and more noticeably in this all-union publication, especially in its literary and art aspect? In my view, you won't strengthen socialist culture this way, much less advance it to a new aesthetic stage.

Our criticism must react sensitively to every such fact, otherwise God only knows where we will end up, if such facts come to increasingly prevail. And such a tendency does exist.

Indeed, the situation in literature is serious. But literature cannot be equated with the economy. In literature an entirely different restructuring should take place. Literature should mature. Literature proceeds from facts, from life, from what is going on; it cannot be restructured the way an industrial plant is restructured. That's simply inconceivable.

We are currently witnessing an onslaught of young writers. But who are young writers? From what age are people considered young? From the cradle? Or how should we look at the matter, in general? In literature the whole problem is the problem of talent.

And another thing. Can it be that criticism has failed to notice that there have been several generations now of young people who have come to literature and are ashamed to mention the word "communist" in their books? And our criticism keeps quiet. PRAVDA keeps quiet, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA discusses what sort of novel has come out in Argentina and pays no attention to what is happening here in Russia.

Is the word "communist" forbidden, or something? Does it exist in our life? Several generations of young writers have been ashamed of it in their works. This is what we must talk about, not about what young writers are.

A young person will arrive if he is talented. And if he lacks talent, he will scream and work his way in somewhere or other. For literature the problem of talent is the most important.

Yu. Bondarev, touching on certain aspects of the present state of Russian literature, said in his speech: Foreign correspondents ask: "Do you really have a civil war underway in literature?"

No, I dare say that so far I do not see any civil war in art. But I would define the present state of Russian literature, which has been besieged by the total-destruction element of our criticism, as like the situation that existed in July 1941 when the progressive forces, showing disorganized resistance, retreated under the onslaught of the ramming blows of the civilized barbarians--blows aimed at destroying a great culture, as in former times that have now become remote history.

If this retreat continues and the time of Stalingrad does not arrive, things will end up in such a way that national values and everything that constitutes the spiritual pride of the people will be cast into the abyss.

The false democrats from literature have lit the lantern of openness stolen from justice and truth at the edge of the abyss. This stolen openness has been represented by our mass media in only one aspect--as aggressive, destructive, and opening the gates wide for mediocrity, ambitious people, false Jacobins and untalented, new-fledged geniuses. But when the nightingales are destroyed, even the sparrow becomes a highly talented songbird.

M. Alekseyev began his speech as follows:

After the last three speakers, I find it awkward to speak, since each of them touched on what is living inside me and troubles me. All I can do is add. Those of us who were at the recent meeting between Comrades M. S. Gorbachev, Ye. K. Ligachev and A. N. Yakovlev and the directors of the mass media may remember how at the very beginning of this meeting Mikhail Sergeyevich, turning to the writers, said that the Central Committee is grateful to writers

for the fact that long before the 27th congress they helped us, with their works, formulate our thought and focus our attention on many problem areas of our existence. And that is correct. Now, when the party has proclaimed openness as the basic law of our life, it no longer takes great courage to raise some sort of extremely controversial questions. But 20 years ago, say, when V. Chivilikhin came out with his article "The Land in Trouble," it took us several months of torment, if not to say blood, to get it published. Courage was needed back then, and that, perhaps, is what should be appreciated.

Some people today want to throw all spiritual values into a pit and bury them, so that there won't be the ghost left of our previous gains in culture.

Unfortunately, the desire to compensate for a lack of talent has always existed. Alas, openness in literature has been utilized by those who even before that were demagogues. And now these "heralds of truth" have received powerful amplifiers for their personal use. Even before, they engaged in empty talk, but now they consider themselves to be the holders of the last word in truth. Many of them reason as follows: If not now, when? They find the present a very suitable time to settle scores with whomever they want. And we should keep this in mind.

I would like to support both Proskurin and Bondarev. Young writers, young writers, young writers. Will someone who is older than I am--although I am not young either--please tell me: is it possible that this label--beginning, young, promising--was once attached to Sholokhov? Or Leonov, or Fadeyev? And they started at the ages of 20 and 30. If you have decided to take the path of literature and have written your first book, you are no longer a pupil but a teacher, and you have set not 10, not 20 and not 30 students down at their desks, but a million. And you are young, you are asking for indulgence, as it were, by using this epithet.

Young writers, young writers, young writers. We too were young. Before the war. My generation was prepared for the war that fascism brought to us. If literature and art had not managed to erect a moral wall in our souls, we would have perished. We were cold, hungry and half-clothed, but we were happy, we believed, and we had great ideals. But what sort of ideals do those present young people have, who, as Proskurin correctly said, do not even mention the word "communist" in their works? Will they be able to prepare a new generation for any future trials?

In his speech M. Alekseyev also touched on the question of studying reader opinion and demand. The writer, he said, absolutely must know the reader's opinion. For the writer the reader is a kind of state acceptance agent.

A. Prokhanov devoted his speech to the problems that arise in our days in literature and art in connection with restructuring. He noted that for artists and people in culture restructuring is not changes in structure and changes in form aimed at stabilizing one's activity. It is a manifestation of equal opportunities for all previously existing cultural tendencies, the removal of the protectorate, the removal of government by directive, and the

opportunity for all tendencies and nuances of world view to manifest themselves.

Touching on the problem of young writers, A. Prokhanov said that it is impossible to continue to close one's eyes to this problem. Restructuring is the business of talented young writers. They see it, know it, and will write about it. The widest path into all the union's structures should be opened to talented young writers.

A. Sofronov spoke in his speech about the best traditions of Soviet literature. I recall, he said, the year 1929, Rostov-on-Don, and the discussion of the first books of Sholokhov's "Tikhiy Don" [Quiet Don], when terrible accusations to the effect that he had incorrectly shown the Don Cossacks, that these Cossacks were utterly nonrevolutionary, etc. were hurled in his face. Sholokhov stood and smiled. He took everything with absolute calm, because he himself had experienced all this, had gone through it all in the Cossack villages, and these people who were talking, acting on impulse, were city dwellers. Later we know how he fought against it when his relatively prestigious comrades at that time tried to get him to change the Melekhov plot at the ending! And he stood his ground, because for him that was the most important thing, something extremely important. It was the steadfastness of the artist and the steadfastness of talent.

And Sholokhov was 24 years old. He was a young writer!

For us, continued A. Sofronov, there cannot be a gap in literature; too much has been done by writers of various generations for the glory of Soviet literature. And the older ones have always helped the young. Both Sholokhov and Serafimovich, whom I personally knew, were always capable of treating young writers with a kind of fatherly concern and affection.

F. Chuyev spoke about ideology as the main component of Soviet literature. He noted that many deficiencies in our literature and many of its troubles are the result of the failures of our ideology and shortcomings in our ideological work. In F. Chuyev's opinion, P. Proskurin was absolutely correct in speaking about the fact that the word "communist" has been completely forgotten among us, especially in young writers' books. Have we forgotten about party-mindedness and kinship with the people in literature? Why have they dropped out of our vocabulary and out of our articles and speeches? These are very important things.

I think, said F. Chuyev in conclusion, that it was not a bad move to publish Nabokov in MOSKVA, although this did not increase circulation. But it has been noted absolutely correctly that good commentary should accompany publication. This should also be said about Pasternak's "Doktor Zhivago." Something else also needs to be said connection with such publications. There is a tendency here that has already been mentioned--these names sometimes eclipse what we grew up on and what brought us up. What is MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS, for example, doing? Several days ago I read in this newspaper an article by B. Sarnov, who wrote, speaking about A. Akhmatova, O. Mandelshtam and B. Pasternak: "Now the whole world honors their names. Bibliophiles hunt their books as the rarest items of value. Literary historians unanimously

recognize their works as practically the most significant phenomenon of 20th-century Russian poetry."

There, in the opinion of the author and the newspaper, are the outstanding poets of our century! As though neither Blok, nor Yesenin, nor Mayakovsky, nor Tvardovskiy and Smelyakov, had existed in Russian poetry. So that's the sort of revelations that the newspaper brings its young readers. They are what gives rise to deficiencies in ideology.

The floor was turned over to E. Zimin. Yesterday a meeting of the Moscow writers' aktiv took place, he said, and now a session of our secretariat is under way. We think and speak about the same thing, while yesterday one had the feeling that the report existed by itself, while the speeches then took their own course, along some sort of roadside, covering small problems and not touching the main ones for whose sake literature exists. I think that without a great ideal great deeds are impossible. Our ideal was defined by the October Revolution and those slogans that were written on its banners, its decrees and laws. We have been approaching the 70th anniversary of Great October, and today we are experiencing a troubling situation.

In discussing the results of the January Plenum, all the writing forces of Russia should find their place in restructuring. A troubling situation has come to exist in our writers' organizations in Russia. We know that there are a good many of all sorts of troubling aspects in the life of the Moscow Writers' Organization, too. Some writers have been engaged in fragmentation and have been settling scores and destroying the writers' organizations. In such situations, some leaders of writers' organizations have lost their sense of responsibility for the atmosphere in the collective, and some of them have lost their bearings. The secretariat and the auditing commission should pay serious attention to this. We must affirm all that is healthy.

Evidently, today we need to meet more with readers and to go to the working class, to the shops, and talk to people. In no case must we forget about young people. After all, it is really strange to hear from young people: What is literature for, and why do you write, and who needs it?

At the present time "metallists," "Lyubery," "new wavers," "anti-Lyubery" and goodness knows what have appeared in the youth milieu. And what is surprising? That a flirtation is going on with these young people. We are playing with them without opposing anything fresh, new and healthy to them. We must speak seriously with young people. Evidently, a kind of confusion already exists here, including confusion in the mass media.

There are things that cannot be ignored. And while discussing today the decisions of our party Central Committee's January Plenum, endorsing and supporting them, we should find our own precise party place in the life of our society.

An important event lies ahead for Russia's multinational literature--the plenum of the Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union on drama. At it we evidently should also define the place of literature in the restructuring process.

In his speech S. Borzunov noted that openness has opened for the press access to certain works whose literary merits raise doubts. Certain editors see their main task in the conditions of restructuring to lie not in raising the ideological and artistic level of published materials and responding promptly to everything new that has been summoned forth by the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and is appearing in the life of our society, but in something entirely different--in surprising the reader with the search for works that were written long ago but for one reason or another were not published in our country or were published over there, in the West. They are not even very much concerned by the question of why they were not published earlier. For them it is the fact itself that is important. And so a kind of competition has started up to see who can discover the most such works and publish them in his pages.

And this, please note, is being done in the year of the anniversary of the Soviet regime!

In his speech Ye. Isayev, touching on the problems of young people, said that the great concept of "socialism" has, willy-nilly, been somewhat devalued in the current fuss of words, gestures and vanity. And this is in terms of its philosophical, political and social content. And this is especially noticeable among the young. Anyone who recently watched the young people's program "The Twelfth Floor" probably noticed that the young people didn't mention the word "work" in it, and the word "labor" was absent. And yet the program was being broadcast from the Volga, from the city of Togliatti, from the Volga Automotive Plant! This is an alarming symptom. Have young people come to be embarrassed by these words or something? And, having become embarrassed, they have started to take a superficial attitude toward the understanding of socialism. And we should persuade them, should speak and write that this is a great concept. It is not simply a political concept and a social concept; it is the concept of our dignity and our experience--socialism!

In their speeches M. Godenko and V. Kobenko, secretary of the board of the Moscow Organization of the RSFSR Writers' Union for organizational questions, also talked about the urgent tasks of Russia's writers and the Secretariat of the Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union in light of the decisions of our party Central Committee's January Plenum, and about the ways to accomplish them.

A resolution was adopted at the session; it notes, in part, that "there is still insufficient principle and exactingness and genuine concern for the development and support of talents in the work of the local writers' organizations. Formalism and bureaucratism must be eliminated in the resolution of creative questions, and there must be help in raising the ideological and artistic level of literature and organizing a barrier to drab works."

The secretariat outlined a number of measures aimed at raising the level of organizational and creative work in the spirit of the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee's January (1987) Plenum.

V. A. Stepanov, section head in the CPSU Central Committee's Culture Department, S. V. Potemkin, instructor in the CPSU Central Committee's Culture Department, and N. P. Kalyuzhnyy, deputy chief of the RSFSR Council of Ministers' Department of Culture, Art and the Press, took part in the meeting.

CULTURE

PUBLISHING HOUSES IN SIBERIA TOO SMALL, INEFFECTIVE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 87 p 3

[Article by Yu. Burykin, director of the Vostochno-Siberskoye Knizhnoye Izdatelstvo, and the writer V. Rasputin, under the rubric "Problems and Opinions": "Siberian Book"]

[Text] Irkutsk--This August the 50th birthday of the playwright Aleksandr Vampilov will be observed. Culture institutions, writers and local residents are preparing for the great literary festival, which is to be held in Irkutsk.

Irkutsk publishers have not remained uninvolved, either--they have prepared a collection of the writers' works for press in a printing of 50,000 copies. Isn't this too small? After all, there are many times as many admirers of Aleksandr Vampilov's talent in Siberia alone, not to mention the country as a whole.

Meanwhile, the publishing house had planned to publish a two-volume edition of the talented playwright's works in a printing of 200,000 copies. But it turned out not to be the one for the job. First the RSFSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade forbade it to publish the two-volume edition, since that is not supposed to be done by publishing houses on an interprovince scale. And then the edition-size commission proposed cutting the printing by three-fourths, in general. That was seemingly correct--200,000 copies for the book trade organizations of Chita and Irkutsk oblasts was rather too many. And our publishing house has no ties with other regions.

There is a legitimate question: How can it be that a book is needed and, at the same time, is seemingly not needed? After all, what is in question is not an ordinary book but a significant phenomenon in our country's culture, and a playwright whose name is widely known.

Another example. This is the tenth year that the Vostochno-Sibirskoye Izdatelstvo has been putting out a series of books known as "Polyarnaya zvezda" [Polar Star] devoted to the Decembrists' literary and epistolary legacy. It is well known throughout the whole country, and the series is of considerable interest abroad. However, it is available only to the residents of the two oblasts that the publishing house serves. We, of course, are

pleased that numerous visitors to Irkutsk ask not for fur, as they used to, but for books in the "Polyarnaya zvezda" and "Literaturnyye pamyatniki Sibiri" [Literary Monuments of Siberia] series (the latter is also very popular). But it is clear that we are cheating ourselves when we cannot satisfy the thousands upon thousands of orders received by the Kniga--pochtoy [Books by Mail] Stores and by the publishing house itself.

These and other facts are persuasive evidence that the physical facilities of book publishing in the region are lagging substantially behind the spiritual and cultural requirements of Siberians, are seriously hindering the development of new creative initiatives, and are reducing the impact of those that already exist. This situation is not just characteristic for the Vostochno-Siberskoye Knizhnoye Izdatelstvo alone. The same thing must be said about the publishers of Novosibirsk, Krasnoyarsk, Omsk and Barnaul. They too would be glad to develop and to provide good books on a wide basis, but as paradoxical as it may seem, their native walls will not let them.

It is superfluous to repeat what great importance is accorded to Siberia and the Far East in the accomplishment of the country's economic and cultural tasks. "Let us turn Siberia into a region of high culture!"--this is not the first year that that slogan has resounded over Russia. Now it is no longer a secret to anyone that the economy depends directly on the richness of man's spiritual world and the development of the social infrastructure. Unfortunately, according to established practice, the attitudes toward these things in our country leave something to be desired. Raw materials and output--tons, kilowatt-hours, cubic meters--have always been demanded from Siberia. But few people were interested in how and by whose hands they were gotten. The practice of this sort of consumption has still not been overcome today. We have started to talk about it more, but little is changing on account of words.

More than one-tenth of the country's population presently lives in Siberia. We shall not touch on other figures; we are interested in book publishing. Alas, only 3.2 percent of the books published in the country in terms of number of titles and 1.4 percent in terms of number of copies come out here. The increase in capital investments in Siberia's economy has bypassed book publishing. For a long time this branch has been experiencing a period of stagnation in our region in terms of both increase in capacity and improvement of technology.

Not so long ago the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers adopted a decree "On Additional Measures for Enhancing the Physical Facilities and Equipment of Book Publishing and Accelerating Scientific and Technical Progress in the Printing Machinery Industry," and the RSFSR Council of Ministers adopted a decree "On Additional Measures for Enhancing the Physical Facilities and Equipment of Book Publishing in the RSFSR." The documents set the task of bringing about a radical change in increasing the production and improving the quality of books through the expansion and reconstruction of printing enterprises, the introduction of advanced machinery and technology, and the widespread mechanization and automation of processes.

The RSFSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade has drawn up a program for accomplishing the aforementioned tasks. It has worked one out, but half of the country's territory falls outside the zone of its influence and attention. The program makes no provision for either the construction of up-to-date new printing enterprises, or the reconstruction of old ones in Siberia.

You can always distinguish a book that has come out in Siberia from one that has been published in Moscow or the Urals. Its paper is grayer, and its cover is inferior. And the quality of the illustrations is such that you don't even want to look at them. Yet dozens of interesting writers live and work in our region. They are not indifferent to how they are published. There are also a good many graphic artists here who are capable of doing a good job of designing a book.

Most of the oblast publishing houses distribute their orders to small old enterprises that are equipped in whatever way they can manage. The publishers are forced to have their best works published in big-city printing combines in an effort, at least in this way, to distinguish them from the gray flow. The supplying of Siberia's publishing houses with printing materials also lags considerably behind the region's needs. As a rule, Siberians get poorer-quality paper and binding materials. And there are cases in which matters are even worse. Say, materials have still not been provided for the collection of Aleksandr Vampilov's plays that was mentioned above. We have no certainty that they will be provided and that a book will come out that is worthy of the author's birthday.

The situation in Siberia is especially bad when it comes to children's books. In the vast territory beyond the Urals, a region of new construction that draws thousands of young people who are starting families, there is not a single specialized modern enterprise for the production of children's books.

A year ago the Irkutsk CPSU Obkom appealed to the RSFSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade with a request to build a high-quality printing enterprise in Irkutsk on the order of Detskaya Kniga No. 1 in Moscow or Detskaya Kniga No. 2 in Leningrad. The answer received was paradoxical. It stated that this was impossible because there was no provision for it in the program for the development of book publishing in 1986-1990, i.e., the very same program that the State Committee had draw up without taking Siberians' interests into account.

In short, book publishing in our country's East must be changed, placed on a modern footing and equipped with up-to-date machinery. The time has come, it seems to us, to organize one or two consolidated regional publishing houses in Siberia that would be capable of solving several critical problems at once. What benefits does this promise? In the first place, such a publishing house (let us call it provisionally Sibir) would make it possible to increase printings of the best books (including the classics) and supply them to a mass readership in the country's East. In the second place, it would make it possible to work on the basis of a single, long-range plan, to do away with duplication in publication of the same books, low standards and parochial oblast interests, and to eliminate numerous unnecessary shipments and the

attendant damage to books. It seems to us that such a publishing house should be in Irkutsk. Why? Our city has a promising printing base--the printing plant of the Izdatelstvo Vostochno-Sibirskaya Pravda. It is slated for reconstruction in the near future. The facility's capacity will be increased fourfold, which means that it will be possible to put out more than 10 million book copies a year. Izdatelstvo Vostochno-Sibirskaya Pravda already takes orders to print books from Magadan, Vladivostok and even Moscow. Paper and materials are shipped here. Finished products are sent back. Isn't it strange? A book is printed in Irkutsk, sent to Moscow, and then returned to stores in Siberia.

Let us recall that the "Sovremennaya sibirskaya povest" [Contemporary Siberian Novella] series has in various years been published in Irkutsk, Novosibirsk and Krasnoyarsk. To this day the right to publish the "Sovremennyy sibirskiy roman" [Contemporary Siberian Novel] series is being disputed by several Siberian cities. The situation is even worse when it comes to mass political literature. The scattering of forces is preventing the appearance of a new series--"Gorizonty Sibiri" [Siberia's Horizons]. It is intended to tell about the region's present and future. And how many similar examples could be cited!

The first to benefit from the establishment of a large publishing house would be the Siberian writer and reader. At the present time Irkutsk residents hardly know Omsk literature, while Omsk residents hardly know Altay literature. Their books are published only for consumption in their own oblasts.

We also link hopes for expanding the publication of regional-studies literature to the consolidation of publishing houses. Interest in Siberia's history has grown along with the general interest in our homeland's past. There is not yet any way to satisfy that interest.

Next year the Vostochno-Sibirskoye Izdatelstvo will begin publishing a new series of books titled "Zamechatelnyye lyudi Sibiri" [Remarkable People of Siberia]. Leading Siberian scholars and writers have begun working on it on the basis of the publishing house's orders. Can it be permitted that books about Yermak, Dezhnev, Shelikhov and Obruchev will again be seen only by a small circle of readers? Would this be fair to the memory of great people whose deeds are widely known throughout all Siberia and whose fame has reached beyond the fatherland's borders? The treatment in brochures and books of the issue of conserving Siberian nature also needs a broader approach that is not confined to narrow oblast limits. And isn't every Siberian interested in the problems of Baikal, which are discussed by the collection of public-affairs writing published in the "Pisatel i Sibir" [Writer and Siberia] series? However, while it has such a promising title, the book once again remains only in Irkutsk and Chita.

Our proposal to set up an all-Siberian publishing house should in no way infringe on the interests of the oblast publishing houses. They are needed, but needed precisely as oblast publishing houses that take into account the specific nature and problems of their regions and exhibit their literature and culture. But along with them, in no way interfering with them and in many

respects helping them, we need a broad-range, large and powerful, unified Siberian publishing house outfitted with up-to-date printing equipment and capable of taking a broad and bold view of its region. We think the arguments for establishing one are serious. And the main one is Siberia itself, and its enormous and ever-growing role in the country's destiny.

8756

CSO: 1800/467

CULTURE

CINEMA INSTITUTE FAILS TO PRODUCE NEW TALENT

Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 9, 2-8 Mar 87 p 14

[Discussion between A. S. Plakhov, secretary of the Board of the USSR Film Workers' Union, film critic and instructor at the All-Union State Cinematography Institute, and V. Shmyrov, a fifth-year student majoring in film studies at the institute, under the rubric "Cinema and Us": "The All-Union State Institute of Cinematography, and What It Should Be Like"; first five paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] It has been customary to write about the State Cinematography Institute in enthusiastic and romantic tones: the best film school in the world, a smithy for filmmakers, furious competitions, the names of famous graduates. And this is accompanied by photoreportage: concentrated faces, chewed pencils, legs covered in tights in an eternal "third position"--all this is supposed to symbolize creative exploration in full swing. In short, "We're from the State Cinematography Institute," and three exclamation points.

Such is the stereotype. Does it conform to reality?

The new leadership of the Film Workers' Union immediately looked into the question of the State Cinematography Institute. At a meeting of the Secretariat of the Film Workers' Union, R. Bykov said: "To whom, specifically, is the State Cinematography Institute giving its blessings, if nondescript and terrible works have received top marks. And these bad works are popularized, while the good ones are kept quiet, and they are feared and are not even released from there. If such works receive top marks and are screened at festivals, that means that what is being instilled is not philosophical maturity but maturity in time-serving, that what is being instilled is not a progressive Marxist-Leninist viewpoint but a philistine one. We need principled artists, and not indifferent hacks." Another secretary of the union, the film director Sergey Solovyev, whose statement was recently cited by the magazine YUNOST, is even more categorical: "Our system of higher specialized education, which used to be a unique school of cinematography in the world, can no longer be considered such today. At the present time this school is undergoing a crisis. We must establish an atmosphere of creative understanding, and then students will be able to study calmly, because it is immoral to teach a person with nothing but slogans."

What has happened to the State Cinematography Institute? To that same State Cinematography Institute? To that same State Cinematography Institute that always took pride in its graduates: Vasilii Shukshin, Andrey Tarkovskiy, Grigoriy Chukhrai, Eldar Ryazanov, Tengiz Abuladze, Nikita Mikhalkov, Sergey Solovyev, Iraklii Kvirikadze, Andrey Konchalovskiy, Elem Klimov, Larisa Shepitko, Otar Ioseliani? Why has the flow of talented creative personnel from this higher school practically ceased in recent years?

An instructor and a student of the State Cinematography Institute--A. S. Plakhov, a film critic and secretary of the Board of the USSR Film Workers' Union, and V. Shmyrov, a fifth-year student in film studies--reflect on the state of affairs at the higher cinematography school, its problems and its prospects:

[Shmyrov] At a recent creative conference titled "The State Cinematography Institute: What Should It Be Like?" for the first time in recent years practically everything that students had done for the screen was shown.

I dare say that N. Makarov's film "Zemlya i voda" [Land and Water] drew the most interest. Shot before the state decision halting the diversion of the flow of northern rivers, the film is infused with a genuine, unfeigned alarm: It is not just people--writers, scientists and native inhabitants of the Russian North--who are clashing; what is clashing are social forces with different understandings of their responsibility to the future. But alas, the picture itself, whose initial fate, as you know, was not easy, found itself in approximately the same situation. The picture proved "too" controversial for the State Cinematography Institute.

[Plakhov] Yes, the Film Workers' Union had to intervene in the conflict between the student, for whom the film was his degree project, and the institute's administration. As it did in another conflict in whose center was another graduating student of the directing division--I. Alimpiyev. He had exceeded the allowable length for a degree project and had made not a purely documentary but an experimental film, with elements of dramatic cinema. Albeit controversial and uneven, it was an example of exploration with the mark of obvious talent. Yet the verdict was unambiguous: don't admit it for defense!

The State Cinematography Institute remembers other instances in which creative initiative was punished, cases which have become classics of sorts. Didn't the faculty once refuse to discuss A. Sokurov's extremely interesting film "Odnokiy golos cheloveka" [A Person's Lonely Voice]--a film adaptation of A. Platonov's fiction? They were afraid that other students would suddenly get the idea they could shoot nine parts instead of five and deviate from the designated specialties of their studios. The main goal was to fill the "cells" of the plan for the training of personnel, while talent and creativity were a secondary matter that would come along of its own accord. The decision was taken at the State Cinematography Institute to destroy Sokurov's film! Fortunately, this "student" film is now being released for audiences at large.

People at the State Cinematography Institute try not to burden themselves with concern over experimentation and the development of film language; they have set a course of training the so-called "strong professional." Where this course leads we can see from the drab film products that the vast majority of recent State Cinematography Institute graduates have turned out once they have joined studios. And those who choose a different course from the time they are students and hold firmly to it are increasingly few.

[Shmyrov] Even today, in the changed situation, few are deciding to follow the path of Sokurov or Makarov. It was earlier, with a relatively low volume of film production, that you could count the number of directors on your fingers, and they would generally not risk "falling out" of the film process, even in the case of an obvious failure. Now things are different. A young person who has barely crossed the threshold of the State Cinematography Institute already reasons that the first examination he will have to pass will be one of endurance. After all, he faces an overproduction of creative personnel. And so the State Cinematography Institute student faces the need to "avoid quarreling" at any cost with his closest superiors--dean, department chairman, prorektor, etc.--on whose opinion and tastes his fate often depends. This is the way the "controllable" artist, the conformist, is turned out. For such a pseudoartist the simplest thing is not to take any risks; it's more convenient to choose topics that have already been worked over, and he will agree to film a screenplay he knows is poor, and will agree to any editing.

All these phenomena have their origin at the State Cinematography Institute. People there have even set up their own "shelf" for unsuitable films--after the image and likeness of "big-time cinema."

Of course, it would be absurd to blame the institute for all this. In the final analysis, it has become what it has because that is what film production, oriented toward the system of collective irresponsibility, was like. But even film production is being restructured, however slowly. At the time of the conference leading playwrights, directors, and critics who had been invited by the students spoke precisely about how studios are interested today as never before in fresh ideas. But is the State Cinematography Institute ready for this?

Today at the institute you can hear the following question rather often: But why did you keep quiet earlier, as though restructuring were the personal business of individual students and instructors?! But one would like to remind people that we did not keep quiet. Do you remember the last festival of State Cinematography Institute films? A student selection committee took part in preparing it and drew up its own program. We were thanked, but the committee's opinion was not taken into account. As a result, as noted in the jury's final declaration, the dramatic part of the program was depressingly uninteresting, and it was decided not to award the main prize.

[Plakhov] Whatever you say, the situation at the institute over the last few years has been abnormal; this is evident to me as a teacher (although I deal with film correspondent students), and a great deal has been revealed as the result of the conference that was organized on the union's initiative. The meagerness of the State Cinematography Institute's production facilities is

screamingly obvious; they are in miserable condition and do not even meet the standards of prewar cinema technology. Most of the creative studios are also in a state of crisis, especially in the directing division. Who selects students for the State Cinematography Institute? Who helps them master the curriculum in their specialties? Who evaluates the results of the selection and instruction? With few exceptions today's best specialists in the area of directing, film studies, film theory and the history of culture will not be found among the institute's masters and instructors. At one time Academician D. S. Likhachev agreed to give a lecture course titled "Etiquette in 19th-Century Culture" for the State Cinematography Institute--something that our young producers, who tomorrow will undertake half-educated screenings of the classics, need like the air they breathe. But the institute administration was not interested in the project.

Of course, not all studios are alike. But in order to recognize this and draw conclusions for the future, openness is needed. And people at the State Cinematography Institute have grown unaccustomed to it. Students' degree work has remained outside criticism and outside the range of attention of young people's newspapers and the professional film magazines. However, when an independent jury of prestigious critics was set up in the conference process, its summary on the basis of the film program it had seen was the following: the vast majority of the studios lacked any ideological, artistic and ethical program that would contribute to the formation, discovery and training of the creative individual.

[Shmyrov] It is good that this has been finally said out loud. I am convinced that without the broadest public attention to the State Cinematography Institute, the higher school will never be revived. Take, for example, the institute's in-house newspaper. The students are reproached: it's your paper, why is it so unpopular? But I recall how one fellow student of mine brought the paper her first, rather favorable, review of the screening of the works of a studio headed by two venerable instructors. Because of its minimal critical remarks, this article was not printed. People at the State Cinematography Institute do not like criticism. Whereas the newspaper was previously characterized by indifference to everything, today it has undertaken to do its utmost to save the honor of a thoroughly shabby uniform.

Where, you ask, does it get such confidence in its own infallibility? From the habit of confusing words with deeds. One studio calls itself the studio of current film, while another calls itself--why think small?--the studio of communist film. And so a barrier is erected to criticism. Yet in the Moscow Film Studio's Debut Association of young filmmakers, 20 of 53 graduates of the production faculty are failing to cope with their work.

[Plakhov] I shall recall that back in 1978 a long-range comprehensive plan was drawn up for turning the State Cinematography Institute into a model higher school. But when the institute's students convened their Komsomol meeting soon after the 27th CPSU Congress, it turned out that nothing had been done, and that in the past eight years the problems had only grown worse. People spoke nervously and contradictorily about the problem areas, sometimes losing sight of the main point behind secondary ones, but all the same, for the first time in many years, they spoke.

It was then that the first reproaches for unethical behavior were heard. Was it proper, some said, for students to call their instructors' competence into question? And what about the prestige of the master, of the administration? I listened attentively to the speeches at the conference, and I believe that if a correction is made for overexcitement and excessive emotion (and how could it be otherwise!), the students demonstrated a high level of awareness and a genuine interest in changes. On the other hand, those who were the target of criticism could not counter it with any serious arguments. After all, the parochial patriotism that has been whipped up at the institute in recent years cannot be considered an argument. It is said that those who criticise do not love the State Cinematography Institute. No, spare us, we just have a different understanding of both love and patriotism. They presuppose not only a fight for what the institute should be like but a recognition of what it should not be like. The fight is under way, and the results--

[Shmyrov] Now there are more diverse activities, and foreign films are screened more than usual. But for the most part the changes have been few. "What's next?" the students ask. To be honest, many people believed that the changes would begin immediately, that all it was necessary to do was to say the word, and they would happen. But alas! The contradictions had built up for years, even decades, and a great deal had had time to be turned upside down.

[Plakhov] It is too early to judge what the final results will be. For the first time in many years the Film Workers' Union has turned a critical eye to the most fundamental link in cinematography, where the foundation of its future is laid. And now it is important not to let the State Cinematography Institute out of our sight. Some people would find it advantageous to portray what is going on as someone's machinations and intrigue, or even something just short of ideological sabotage. Students coming forth with criticism? "Someone's put them up to it!" But you can't escape restructuring, no matter how strong some people's impenetrability and deafness to life may be.

Mikhail Ilyich Romm wrote about the filmmaker: "In this young art it is impossible to stand in place, as it is impossible to stop: any immobile body is out of place here. But some of these immobile bodies consider themselves something like the granite buttresses of a bridge at a time when the ice is breaking up: break on me or go around me! Let us recall, however, that another term for this buttress is a 'bull' [a pun on the Russian word 'byk,' in this context a bridge 'pier']."

8756

CSO: 1800/467

SOCIAL ISSUES

BOOK EXAMINES SOCIALIST WAY OF LIFE

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI (REFERATIVNYY ZHURNAL) in Russian No 5, Sep-Oct 86 (signed to press 29 Jul 86) pp 119-123

[Review by L. M. Stepina of the book "Byt razvitogo sotsializma: Sushchnost i osnovnyye cherty" (Everyday Life of Developed Socialism: Essence and Basic Features), Lvov, "Vishcha shk. Izd-vo pri Lvov. un-te", 1985, 146 pages]

[Text] This monograph, which consists of an introduction, three sections, and a conclusion, investigates the essence of everyday life ["byt"], its basic features, and developmental trends under conditions of developed socialism.

The first section is devoted to the essence of everyday life and its internationalist features. The domestic (family) form of everyday life is the ordinary life of a small social group, the family, which is characterized by a definite way of organizing to meet the material and nonmaterial needs of its members and to serve them. The social form of everyday life manifests itself in the development of cooperative relations among people, as well as through the system of enterprises and institutions that facilitate this process, to improve their combined satisfaction of their material and nonmaterial needs. The sphere of social everyday life includes the customs, traditions, and rituals of people's vital daily activities which are carried out by them jointly. Under conditions of the contemporary scientific-technical revolution the production form of everyday life, which is directed to meeting the personal needs of members of the labor collective both during the process of their labor and away from production activity, has been separated out from the social form (pp 18-20). Socialist everyday life as a qualitatively new type of vital human activity is conditioned by the socialist method of production, socialist (in content) culture, and the socialist way of life. The important social functions of everyday life are to meet the various material and nonmaterial needs of a person, restore his vital forces, and mold a new type of comprehensively developed, harmonious personality (p 24).

The most typical features and characteristics of everyday life are: the collective nature of socialist everyday life, which is manifested in the molding and development of its social forms; the convergence and development of socially uniform and internationalist features of the everyday life of the new historical community of people, the Soviet people; broadening of the

social role of socialist everyday life (everyday life increasing becomes a factor in molding reasonable individual needs as well as rational forms and methods of meeting them); and scientifically substantiated social management of the development of socialist everyday life as a manifestation of the growth of the subjective factor in conditions of socialism (p 30). The molding of internationalist features in socialist everyday life has specific traits resulting from the fact that everyday life is one of the most unique spheres of social life, at the intersection of the material and the nonmaterial, of base and superstructure phenomena. Inter-republic exchange of consumer goods, a certain standardization in city planning, the formation of service zones, the organization of trade, and similar factors promote the appearance of internationalist features, above all in the material side of everyday life. Changes that occur in the material side of everyday life have a certain influence on the nonmaterial world of people's everyday life and on their traditions, customs, rituals, habits, psychological makeup, and so on. The most vivid manifestation of the internationalization of socialist everyday life is mixed-nationality marriages, which account for 13.5 percent of all families in the USSR. The convergence of the different nations and nationalities who populate the USSR and the internationalization of their everyday life with concurrent development and enrichment of national features and characteristics fosters the formation of socially homogeneous forms of vital everyday and typical activity of the Soviet people.

The second part reviews the formation and development of reasonable individual needs in the sphere of socialist everyday life. Reasonable needs have individual-social criteria. Their individual aspects are determined by the fact that they are expected to promote development of the individual, refinement of cultural and physical qualities, and realization of creative strengths and potential talents. The social aspects are manifested in the fact that the criterion of reasonableness is the capabilities of society in the particular phase of its historical development. Understanding the correlation between individual needs and the social capabilities and aspirations of socialist society to create optimal conditions for comprehensive and harmonious development of the individual is the basic factor in solving this problem. Despite the objective nature of growth in needs, the process of their emergence and formation cannot be considered uncontrollable because socialist society influences this process by creating conditions that support some needs and restrict other irrational, transient ones. The molding of the individual and individual needs begins in the family. The family's emotional atmosphere creates the preconditions for molding the basic personality traits, which are reinforced and become a kind of criteria for choosing and evaluating the many human goals, guidelines, and therefore also aspirations. The need to rationalize and optimize the consumption process under conditions of everyday life demands that it be studied not only in its domestic form, but also in the social and production forms. The domain of social and production everyday life is open and to a significant degree subject to planned development, regulation, and thus social management. Society manages the process of consumption and molds new needs appropriate to the level of social development in these spheres of vital everyday activity through the opportunities it offers to choose various material goods and services, spend free time meaningfully, raise the vocational and cultural level of working people, and develop nonmaterial qualities. Structural elements of

everyday life such as traditions, rituals, and customs, which most fully promote stabilization of norms, rules, and characteristics of human consumption activity, also play a substantial part in molding reasonable needs under conditions of everyday life. New everyday traditions, customs, and rituals that personify progressive social experience help reinforce the standards of the socialist way of life, first on the concrete sensory and emotional-esthetic level, and later on the rational level as well.

The third section of the book is devoted to problems of social management of socialist everyday life, which is a part of scientific management of socialist society; it is a complex process of conscious and purposeful influence on people based on investigation, analysis, and utilization of the objective trends and patterns of development of the sphere of their everyday life for the purpose of making it more rational (p 89). Social management of everyday life and its improvement presuppose defining average norms and the level and structure of consumption of household goods and finding the most convenient, durable, attractive, and relatively inexpensive fabrics, footwear, clothing, furniture, and the like. The residence is the foundation of the material side of everyday life in both the domestic and the social forms. The distribution of living space is one of the elements of social management of everyday domestic life. Recently there has arisen the social need for so-called secondary housing, which includes dormitories for persons who are studying or working away from their place of primary residence, homes for the elderly, garden cottages, and the like. This makes it necessary to study the rational ratio of primary and secondary housing from the standpoints of quality and practical expediency as well as by quantitative indicators and trends in development and improvement. The needs of the urban and rural populations are converging.

The presence of the private plot is a specific feature of everyday rural life; the peasant family to some extent remains a production cell of society, which is very little characteristic of the industrial worker's family today. The socioeconomic and cultural-domestic differences between the city and the countryside can be overcome in these basic ways: (1) bringing the level of development of rural production forces closer to the urban level; (2) bringing the forms of socialist production relations in the city and the countryside closer together; (3) further growth in the industrial population at the expense of the agrarian population; (4) convergence of the levels of material well-being of working people in the city and the countryside; (5) further development of transportation and other forms of communication between the city and the countryside; (6) convergence of the types of settlement (p 125).

COPYRIGHT: UNION AN SSSR

11176

CSO: 1830/394

SOCIAL ISSUES

BOOK NOTES SOCIAL STRUCTURE CHANGES FOR WORKERS, INTELLIGENTSIA

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNIYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 3--FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI (REFERATIVNIY ZHURNAL) in Russian No 5, Sep-Oct 86 (signed to press 29 Jul 86) pp 123-126

[Review by K. I. Vlasenko of book "Razvitiye sotsialnoy struktury obshchestva v SSSR: Aktualnyye problemy sotsiologicheskikh issledovaniy" (The Development of the Social Structure in the USSR: Timely Problems of Sociological Research) by Aitov, N. A., Arutyunyan, Yu. V., Babosov, Ye. M., and others, accountable editor V. N. Ivanov, USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociological Research, Moscow, "Nauka", 1985, 190 pages]

[Text] The monograph consists of an introduction, four sections (13 chapters), and a conclusion.

The first section, entitled "Methodological Problems of Research on the Social Structure of a Developed Socialist Society," says that in conducting this research the following must be taken into account: (1) the specific features of socialism as the first phase of a communist formation; (2) the characteristics of the specific historical experience of building a new society in the USSR; (3) the specific features of the social structure as the chief component of social relations. Social structure is considered in the narrow (social class) and the broad (an aggregate of social class, social-demographic, social-ethnic, and other structures) senses of the word.

In the last 40 some years the proportion of the working class in the country's population has grown, from 33.7 percent in 1939 to 61.5 percent in 1984, while the percentage of employees (chiefly employed in mental labor) went from 16.5 percent in 1939 to 26 percent in 1984. In the same period the proportion of kolkhoz peasants declined from 47.2 to 12.5 percent (pp 10-11). The qualifications of the primary social groups of society have also changed; three-quarters of employees engaged in mental labor have specialized diplomas. The same trend is manifested in the continuing urbanization of the country. It is proposed to distribute the graduates of general secondary schools as follows to create optimal proportions among the chief social groups: 10-12 percent to VUZes, 12-15 percent to secondary specialized schools, and about three-quarters of the rest to vocational-technical schools.

The contradictions in the process of development of the social structure of Soviet society in the current phase manifest themselves in the dialectic of the interrelationship of equality by position in the system of social relations and inequality in the distribution sphere. Overcoming this contradiction is the central problem of sociological study of the social structure of Soviet society. The attempt to juxtapose research on the sociological concepts of the "social structure of society" and the "social composition of the population" does not offer a possibility of understanding the dialectic of elements and structure in the social sphere. "In sociological research on the social structure of Soviet society the analysis of changes in social relations is inseparable from analysis of changes in the makeup of the bearers of these relations, in their position in society" (p 28). It is proper to single out, from the system of sociological knowledge, the special sociological theory of social structure in the form of a particular branch of applied sociology. The social structure undergoes the influence of both the natural and economic conditions of human production activity and the sociopolitical factor. There needs to be serious theoretical development on the problem of regional structure as a "cross-section" of social structure. The formation of social homogeneity is based on convergence of kolkhoz-cooperative and all-people's property. The determining condition in the convergence of the two forms of socialist production is steady rise in the productivity of social labor. A significant convergence in the level of wages of sovkhoz workers and kolkhoz members with the level of industrial workers is noted: in 1980 sovkhoz workers received 80.3 percent of the wages of workers of industrial enterprises and kolkhoz members received 62.5 percent (p 54). In 1984 for each 1,000 persons employed in the national economy the number with higher and secondary education was 825 among workers, 695 among kolkhoz members, and 987 among employees (p 56). Interaction of social groups in the social structure presupposes a leading role for the working class in the process of molding homogeneity in society and creating optimal conditions for the social progress of the kolkhoz peasants and people's intelligentsia. At the same time the working class, occupying the foremost place in the primary spheres of social relations, is rising to the level of the intelligentsia in achieving intellectual content in labor, raising the educational level, and assimilating culture.

The second section is devoted to change in the structure and makeup of classes and social groups in the USSR. The social development of the working class is expressed in the production, economic, political, and cultural domains. Change in the social makeup of the working class and social convergence of the working class with other social groups (above all with engineering-technical personnel) are indicators of the social development of the workers. An all-Union study called "Indicators of the Social Development of Soviet Society" was done in 1979-1985 by the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociological Research using material on several regions of the country (Gorky and Dnepropetrovsk oblasts, Belorussia, and Azerbaijan). The following patterns were identified as a result: (1) physical loads increase with a rise in worker qualifications; (2) the comfort of the labor environment changes in inverse proportion to qualifications; (3) the level of nervous strain increases in direct proportion to qualifications; (4) mental expenditures increase proportional to qualifications (pp 78-79). "Highly skilled [qualified] workers as a rule also show a higher level of sociopolitical and

labor activism" (p 81). The nature of development of the Soviet working class changes in the late 1970's and early 1980's: (1) having become a majority of the working people, the working class is becoming the primary source for its own reproduction; (2) encompassing two-thirds of all the working population of the USSR, the working class's quantitative growth rate is slowing down; (3) fundamental qualitative changes are being carried out on the vocational-qualifications, educational-technical, and general cultural levels among Soviet workers.

The population of kolkhoz peasants in 1983 was 13.6 million. There were about 2 million specialists with diplomas (41 percent at the kolkhozes, and 59 percent at interfarm associations and sovkhozes)(p 93). In the period 1970-1980 the monthly earnings of a kolkhoz member rose 1.6 times, while those of a sovkhoz worker rose 1.5 times (p 95). In the period from 1970 to 1983 the production output per kolkhoz member increased by more than 1.5 times. The main line of development of the social class structure of the Soviet countryside in the current phase is interfarm cooperation and agroindustrial integration, whose economic basis is kolkhoz-cooperative property. The existence of the property of state-kolkhoz associations gives rise to a new social stratum, a boundary group by its place and role in social production. This is the special group of "peasant-workers."

The size of the Soviet intelligentsia has grown in the process of building socialism: it was 2.4 million in 1941, and 31.6 million in 1983, which included 14.1 engineering-technical personnel, 6.1 million library employees, and 1.1 million doctors (pp 109-110). Sociological knowledge of the people's intelligentsia must be obtained in a differentiated manner, paying attention to "vertical" delineation: specialists with secondary specialized education and with completed higher education, as well as the "horizontal," defined by the existence of socio-vocational groups ("detachments"): the production-technical, medical, pedagogical, cultural-educational, artistic, administrative, scientific-technical, and military intelligentsia. These differences are both vocational and social (inequality of working conditions and wages, features of social psychology, and way of life). In addition, the intelligentsia is broken down into urban and rural.

The third section is devoted to social shifts in Soviet society. Analysis of social shifts as a factor in the development of social structure demands study of the actual structural changes in society and of "pure" mobility, the shifts of people from one stratum to more highly developed social strata. Stabilization of the social position of skilled workers with secondary education occurs at 26.6 years, while for specialists with higher education it comes at 25.1 years of age. Social shifts within generations are determined by four types of factors: (1) extensive processes of national economic development; (2) the influence of scientific-technical progress; (3) the unevenness of development of the regional settlement structure of society; (4) the impact of changes in the social structure itself over time. "The most important indicator in the labor biography of a specific individual is the basic direction of the social shifts which he makes in the course of his labor activity" (; 125). Under contemporary conditions the social-integrating role of secondary education is growing: in 1984 58.9 million people had completed general secondary school; when we add on those with secondary specialized and

higher education the total is 109.2 million. This level of education is characteristic of 82.5 percent of the workers, 69.5 percent of the kolkhoz members, and 98.7 percent of the employees and specialists (p 133). The proportion of students entering VUZes who have no labor experience has increased considerably: in 1969 it was 56.2 percent, in 1973 it was 59 percent, and in 1977 74.7 percent of all respondents fit this category (p 133). The decline in the number of persons entering VUZes who have labor experience is a result, on the one hand, of factors that increase the attractiveness of the worker professions and, on the other hand, factors that somewhat diminish the attractiveness of highly skilled mental labor. The social composition of the student group represents all society's social groups and proves its open character.

The fourth section analyzes regional and national characteristics of the development of social structure. Social-territorial differences are closely linked with social class, demographic, and national differences. The methodology of regional investigation of social structure demands scientific substantiation of the category of "region," whose meaning is "various compact administrative-territorial communities which organize the economic and social life of the population groups living in them" (p 160). When studying social structure in regions the contradictions identified are classified by the following principles: (1) by extent of their common factor (parts of a region -- region -- country as a whole); (2) by degree of their manifestation; (3) as primary or nonprimary (associated), long-term or transitory. The concept of the common territorial factor is introduced; this means a unique kind of "cell," the cell of a social organism which encompasses "natural and material complexes and communities of people" (p 166). The integrated indicator of level of development of the common territorial factor is called a social indicator which reflects the degree of development of social units.

COPYRIGHT; INION AN SSSR

11176

CSO: 1830/394

SOCIAL ISSUES

INTERVIEW CLARIFIES EMIGRATION RULES

Moscow VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA in Russian 6 Mar 87 p 3

[Interview with S. I. Alpatov, chief, Mosgorispolkom UVIR GUV D: "The Right to Emigrate: Truth and Fiction"; date and place not specified]

[Text] On 12 February our newspaper published the article entitled "In the Mosgorispolkom UVIR GUV D". It explained the reasons why certain Moscow citizens were denied their petitions to emigrate from the USSR for permanent residence abroad. In connection with this publication, the editorial staff received questions from readers, which we asked S. I. Alpatov, chief of the Mosgorispolkom UVIR GUV D to answer.

[Question] Sergey Ivanovich, who, in your opinion, generally petitions to emigrate from our country for permanent residence abroad?

[Answer] Those Moscow residents who in their petitions to UVIR cite the main reason for their request as being the desire to be reunited with their close relatives.

[Question] What laws and standard decrees does UVIR follow in making its decision?

[Answer] First of all, it follows our Constitution, which cites the basic rights and responsibilities of a citizen of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Based on the Soviet Constitution, the USSR Council of Ministers on 22 September 1970 adopted the Statute on Entry into the USSR and Emigration from Our Country. Last year this Statute was augmented by a new section: "Review of petitions for entry into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and emigration from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for personal matters." This supplement became effective as of 1 January of this year.

[Question] Thus, the supplement clarifies and regulates specifically the order of entry and exit for personal matters...

[Answer] This is quite correct. It was specifically this section which required definite clarifications. As M. S. Gorbachev said in his speech presented at the forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, For Survival of Mankind," these reflected

"our new approaches to humanitarian problems in the 'third Helsinki basket'." Our country is fulfilling the international responsibilities which it has assumed, specifically those entered in the Helsinki Agreements. The supplements recently adopted by the USSR Council of Ministers which we have mentioned are directed toward this end, and this determines the everyday practice in the work of the UVIR.

Thus, for example, before we had no precise definition of the term "reunification with family." This sometimes served as the reason for prolonged, and sometimes even repeated consideration of a petition to emigrate abroad for reasons of reunification. Moreover, the absence of a precise interpretation of this term in some cases facilitated a situation arising where instead of reunification of a family there was in fact its separation. Thus, under the guise of implementing the rights of one person, the rights of other citizens were abridged, and specifically the rights of children, doing great moral harm to society. This was also counter to Soviet legislation, as well as with the Helsinki Agreements.

Here is one characteristic example. Moscow resident G. Rozenblit repeatedly petitioned the UVIR, asking to emigrate to Israel where he, as stated in the petition, is supposed to be reunited with his aunt. However, his aged parents would remain in Moscow. Obviously, we denied this request, since here, as written in the Resolution of the USSR Council of Ministers, there was a disruption not only of the principle of reunification, but also a hindrance of significant rights of other citizens, in this specific case--the aged parents.

Or here is another example. Moscow resident G. Gerasimova is seeking permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union to the USA for the purpose of being reunited with her daughter. Her daughter, who was participating in an international competition abroad, at one time refused to return to our country. The question of G. Gerasimova's emigration to the USA to be with her daughter cannot be decided in a positive manner because the latter is in the USA illegally, which is clearly stated in p. 25 "e" of the Resolution No 1064 of the USSR Council of Ministers dated 28 August 1986.

At the same time, we would like to stress the fact that the requests of persons who have a lawful basis for emigration abroad are carefully considered and granted by the UVIR. Thus, in January-February of this year alone, over 150 Moscow residents requesting permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union received such an opportunity after consideration of their requests. We might add that many Moscow residents who had previously been planning to leave our country have currently turned to the UVIR with a request to cancel their petition for emigration abroad. Specifically, we received such announcements from Ye. Korneyev, M. Karpova, S. Karpova, M. Veprinskaya, V. Ioffe, M. Ioffe, and others.

[Question] Have times been set for reviewing such petitions?

[Answer] Undoubtedly. Such petitions, as this is not provided in the Statute, are reviewed within a month. If difficult circumstances arise which require clarification, this time may be extended, but to no longer than 6 months. Also, if the trip abroad is associated with a serious illness or death of a relative, the petition is reviewed within 3 days.

[Question] The information published by VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA states that certain citizens were denied exit from the USSR in connection with their access to state and military secrets which are vital to the security of the country. Who determines the degree of such access?

[Answer] The degree of access is determined by the ministries and departments, and at the enterprises and institutions where the specialist was employed. It is they who make the final decision and set the time of limitations on emigration.

[Question] The western means of mass information often maintain that such a practice of limiting emigration for reasons of national security contradicts basic international agreements in this field and is an infringement on human rights and basic freedoms.

[Answer] As concerns the basic international agreements, I can refer, if you will, to the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in December of 1966. It states, for example, that the rights of persons wishing to leave their country may be limited due to "state security, public order, health or morality of the population, or other rights and freedoms".

Our ideological enemies do not always appropriately refer to the Helsinki Agreements. And we should remember that the participant countries who signed these agreements promised to honor previously adopted international declarations and agreements. This concerns, naturally, also the U.N. International Pact on Civil and Political Rights, to which I have already made reference. Moreover, the countries participating in the meeting in Helsinki promised "to respect each other's laws...to establish their own laws and administrative regulations". Thus, the justified limitations on exit from the USSR for reason of specific matters do not contradict international practice.

[Question] So what can we say is the main reason for denial of the requests of certain Moscow residents in their requests to leave the USSR?

[Answer] Their knowledge of state and military secrets. And, as written in the government resolution, as long as this circumstance is in force, exit from the Soviet Union for personal matters is prohibited for these persons. Here I must point out the following important fact. The petitioner is informed of the results of the petition's review, and in the case of denial also of the reasons. We are introducing a practice which will make it possible in a number of cases to inform the petitioner of the times of these limitations.

However, here I must say that we know of a group of people whose emigration is temporarily limited for reasons of state security, and they know this very well. However, trying to circumvent existing laws, including also international agreements, they are trying to gain special privileges for themselves. And often the subject here is not merely that of extreme egoism, but of a direct effort to use fabrications and lies to gain the sympathies of certain circles in the West and to gain their fortune from our ideological enemies.

I will refer to a rather characteristic example. In early February in Moscow a small group of extremists--it is difficult to find any other term for them--decided to play into the hands of the enemies of international easing of tensions

and introduce their bit into the information-propagandist intervention against our country. Your newspaper described this incident in detail.

[Question] Up until now we have generally spoken about those people who for one reason or another want to leave our country. But the circle of questions with which the UVIR is concerned is, evidently, broader than that, isn't it?

[Answer] Obviously. I can refer to a phenomenon which has become one of the unique marks of democratization in the life of our society. This is the process of return to the Homeland by persons who at one time left our country for purposes of being "reunited with members of their families". Here is the latest example: on 23 February of this year 38 persons arrived on the Washington-Moscow plane--those who at one time had left for Israel.

In conclusion, I would like to say that practical experience shows that most of the limitations on emigration are associated only with the interests of national security. Such limitations are inevitable as long as the threat of war exists. It is specifically this threat that is the chief enemy of mankind and limits the rights and freedoms of the people.

12322

CSO: 1800/456

SOCIAL ISSUES

SUPREME COURT OFFICIAL DECRIES JUDICIAL ERRORS

Moscow CHELOVEK I ZAKON in Russian No 3, Mar 87 (signed to press 22 Jan 87)
pp 6-12

[Article by USSR Supreme Court Deputy Chairman Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Smolentsev under the "Implement the 27th Congress Decisions" rubric: "Without the Right to Err"; first two paragraphs are CHELOVEK I ZAKON introduction printed in boldface type; other passages so printed are rendered in all-capital letters]

[Text] In the TsK KPSS [CPSU Central Committee] decree "On Further Strengthening Socialist Legality and Lawful Order and Increasing the Protection of Citizens' Rights and Lawful Interests," it is noted that carrying out the party's policy of accelerating socio-economic development, democratizing all aspects of public life, and increasing the masses' creativity is inseparable from strengthening socialist legality and lawful order, ensuring the reliable protection of Soviet citizens' constitutional rights and lawful interests, and strict observance of the principles of social justice. The CPSU Central Committee recognized a need to reorganize the work of all legal protection agencies, to the end that they may reliably ensure the defense of the state's interests and the citizens' rights, even more effectively carry on the struggle against lawbreaking and crime, be closely linked to the workers, and serve as a true model of legality's strictest observance.

USSR Supreme Court Deputy Chairman YEVGENIY ALEKSEYEVICH SMOLENTSEV tells us what such reorganization means with respect to the courts.

Upon evaluating the work of the courts over a period of many years, it has been considered that things are mainly satisfactory, and there are only isolated defects. But is this, in fact, the case; have we not been inclined toward liberality, and have we not been walking away from a decisive struggle with errors and defects? A sweeping and totally frank discussion, specifically about this, took place in the USSR Supreme Court's December (1986) Plenum, in which one of the most important and urgent matters in our work--that of the strictest observance of legality in the examination of cases by the courts--was discussed with particular incisiveness.

I should like to stress at once that there are no grounds whatsoever for underestimating all of the good that has accrued over a period of many years from the activity of the courts at all levels. Those people are profoundly wrong,

who try to talk about unscrupulousness of judges and other miscarriages of justice almost as if talking about some period of lawlessness and despotism. These unfair accusations, to put it mildly, must be rejected in most peremptory fashion.

However, I shall also stress something else: We do not have the right to overlook the serious defects and oversights being permitted by the courts; for only upon the objective evaluation of specific work, and the conclusive eradication of its defects and errors, can radical improvement be expected in the activity associated with administering justice.

Evaluating the quality and effectiveness of the work of the legal protection agencies, including the courts, usually begins with what the status of crime and conviction is. And the point here is not just in the custom. It is precisely by the dynamics of crime and conviction that our activity's effectiveness can be judged. And, although no one has argued for a long time now about the fact that everything by no means depends upon us, still, very much does depend squarely upon us. It is for this reason that the main burden of the struggle against crime rests upon the legal protection agencies.

So, just what, in brief, is the picture?

During the last 10 years, a rise has been noted in crimes and convictions of especially large embezzlements, taking bribes, speculation, and thefts of citizens' personal property; that is, of crimes involving material gain.

This is to be explained by a large number of causes, even including serious misjudgments in the legal protection agencies' activity. It is no secret that, until recently, instances of avoiding the recording of crimes and the instituting of criminal cases were rather widespread occurrences, which led to the creation of an impunity situation that, as is well known, generates new crimes.

One cannot, of course, deny the negative influence of other unfavorable factors as well, the prevalence of drunkenness for example. However, the state and society had only to undertake the overcoming of this evil in the proper manner, and results were not long in appearing. Thus, the number of crimes committed in an intoxicated state, especially the serious ones, has noticeably decreased recently. At the same time, conviction for bootlegging [samogonovareniye] has increased more than sixfold throughout the union. It is thought that such a phenomenon is entirely natural--there is no great secret here. Indeed, it was to be expected that, under conditions of a drastic cutback of the trading in alcoholic beverages, the proscribed making and selling of strong alcoholic beverages would increase. So the struggle against this phenomenon also has had to be stepped up. Therefore, it is very important that the law providing punishment for this crime operate actively.

Thus, one may speak of a reciprocal relation's action--an abrupt increase in conviction for bootlegging, as part of the overall struggle against drunkenness, shows up favorably in an extremely noticeable rate decline for the most dangerous crimes. And this is the main thing.

The courts' activity is called upon to exert a substantial influence upon the general criminogenic situation and purity of the moral and psychological climate in society. Not without reason is it directly stated, in 27th Party Congress documents and the CPSU Central Committee's decree "On Further Strengthening Socialist Legality and Lawful Order and Increasing the Protection of Citizens' Rights and Lawful Interests," that it is essential to raise the standard of justice's administration, achieve full implementation of the constitutional principle of citizens' equality in the eyes of the law and the court, and ensure reliable defense of the rights and lawful interests of both individual citizens and society as a whole. Fulfillment of this requirement is associated, first of all, with the problem of legality's strict observance in criminal court proceedings.

Sometimes one chances to hear that the number of erroneous court decisions is not great in comparison with the total number of criminal cases heard. No more than 3 percent of the sentences is repealed or changed from year to year. Judgments of this kind have no right to exist. We will not tolerate an arithmetical or statistical approach here. Even one error, however slight, can cause irreparable damage to the cause of justice and peoples' interests. The task of the courts is to see that errors are entirely eliminated from their activity. During recent years, much attention has been devoted to improving the professional training of legal protection agencies' workers. The trained staff of judges is being improved from year to year. The USSR and union republic Supreme Court Plenums regularly provide clarifications concerning current problems in applying the law. Legal science, likewise, does not stand aloof, and renders such assistance as it can to the practicing workers. The provision of normative material to the courts is improving. But, in the meantime, court errors still have not been completely eliminated.

Instances of groundless conviction have occurred in courts of the Kazakh, Uzbek, Tajik, Turkmen, and Latvian SSR's, the Tatar, Dagestan, Yakutsk, and Karelian ASSR's, and in a number of BSSR [Belorussian SSR], UkSSR [Ukrainian SSR], and RSFSR oblast courts.

In what lie the roots of gross court errors, which inflict tremendous harm, not only upon innocent citizens and their relatives, but also upon justice's prestige; and which undermine the citizens' faith in the fairness of a Soviet court?

The main cause resides in the following: Some judges are infected by the prosecution's bias, and for that reason do not implement justice's first precept, as set forth in article 14 of Fundamentals of Criminal Court Proceedings in the USSR and the Union Republics. I have in mind the requirement, according to which the circumstances of every criminal case must, in the court, SPECIFICALLY IN THE COURT, BE THOROUGHLY, FULLY, AND OBJECTIVELY EXAMINED. However, it sometimes happens that judges trust materials of the administrative inquiry and preliminary investigation blindly, do not trouble themselves with careful and objective examination of evidence in the court session, brush aside contradictions in the testimony and pleadings stated by the participants in the proceeding, and attach no importance to complaints about violations of legality.

It would seem that, in our times, there no longer should be naive people in the courts, who do not understand that the court hearing is the main stage in a criminal proceeding for the reason that precisely in it, under conditions of openness, an adversary situation, and the absence of prejudice, there is the best chance to determine the truth and rule out error. Those judges do not exist, who would not be aware that the country's constitution places squarely upon them the duty and responsibility of conclusively resolving the question of the guilt of a person charged with a crime. However, as is apparent, for some judges, it is one thing to be aware of this, and another--to execute their duties honestly, fearlessly, and without seeking the approval of others. As a result, it must be recognized that instances of citizens' groundless conviction--are a sad reality, to which we have no right to close our eyes.

I shall cite, as an example, an instance wherein the superficial hearing of a case, and the court's total indifference to the defendant's plea of innocence, also led to the latter's groundless conviction of murder.

One Gryzlov was found guilty by the Nizhegorodskiy Rayon People's Court of the Crimean Oblast in that, during a quarrel, he allegedly knocked his father off his feet with a blow of the fist, and then, with a foot, caused him severe bodily harm, from which he died. In result--10 years of deprivation of freedom.

After the appropriate court and public prosecution authorities had rejected appeals, in which the charge against Gryzlov was refuted, Gryzlova, the convict's mother, went to the Crimean Oblast Public Prosecutor, and asserted that one Polyakov and one Nezderkin had killed her husband. Subsequent investigation not only fully substantiated this assertion, but also proved that the case against Gryzlov had been fabricated from beginning to end.

Gryzlov, almost on his knees, had convinced the court of his innocence, and had told in detail about the unlawful action the investigation workers had taken with respect to him, forcing him to acknowledge guilt in his father's murder. However, the judges, very frivolously and naively, regarded his testimony as the attempt of a patricide to escape accountability.

Meanwhile, an elementary analysis of the fabricated case materials, had one been made, would have given the court occasion to have reasonable doubt about the justice of the charge. For example, Gryzlov's testimony in the preliminary investigation, to the effect that he had inflicted only a few blows upon his father, was not in agreement with the court-appointed panel of medical experts' conclusion about the cause of the victim's death. It followed from the panel's conclusion that a great number of blows had been inflicted upon the victim, in regions of the face, head, and torso, as a result of which he was found to have broken ribs and a ruptured pleura, and his lung tissue was damaged. How can it be denied that such instances--are a true disgrace, not just for the investigating agencies, but for the court as well.

The USSR Supreme Court Plenum has pointed out to the courts repeatedly the need for a most concerned attitude toward verification of the grounds for charging citizens with exceeding the bounds of necessary defense. Nevertheless, citizens sometimes are sentenced to this day for acts they were compelled to commit in order to save themselves or others from criminal assault.

Thus, one Pinegin, who, in defending himself against a drunken hoodlum that had attacked him, caused the hoodlum severe bodily harm, was sentenced by the Vyazemskiy Rayon Court of Khabarovsk Kray. Citizeness T. was found guilty and sentenced by the Ukhta Municipal People's Court for the fact that she struck with a knife one Bukatov, who was attempting to rape her. The Kolpinskiy Rayon People's Court of the city of Leningrad sentenced one Baskakov for causing severe bodily harm to one Borovski, who had committed felonious assault upon Baskakov. The higher courts repealed all of these unlawful sentences.

The opinion is expressed more and more often of late that the courts' errors are the result of pressure on the judges from local authorities and officials. It cannot but be acknowledged that such expressed opinions are just. Pressure upon judges for the purpose of obtaining a desired decision does exist. And we do not have the right not to notice it, and not to struggle against it.

A November (1986) CPSU Central Committee decree also obligates us in this respect. Not infrequently, judges build their relations with the public prosecutors improperly and, falling under the latter's influence, lose their adherence to principle in deciding cases and do not react to investigation defects. Instances of the unlawful returning of cases to the public prosecutor's office in order that they may be dropped there, and not in the court, often are to be explained by precisely this. The pronouncing of a finding of guilt on a purely formalistic basis, in instances when an acquittal finding should have been pronounced, is related to this, as well as the courts' insufficient exactingness with respect to the quality of administrative inquiry and preliminary investigation. I shall cite specific instances.

One Maslov was arraigned on criminal charges, and was then sentenced according to part 1, article 144 of the UK RSFSR [RSFSR Criminal Code] to a year and a half of deprivation of freedom by the Zavodskoy People's Court in Orel Oblast. His entire guilt boiled down to the fact that he willfully, and without his mother-in-law's permission, took from her cellar two jars of cucumber pickles, the value of which amounted to 3 rubles 60 kopecks! The (Zisvyazhskiy) People's Court of Ulyanovsk Oblast sentenced one Dubov to 2 years of deprivation of freedom for the fact that he did not return a pair of sunglasses to his acquaintance. Unfortunately, however, these instances are not unique, and all of them have their own explanations. Usually, to be sure, the public prosecutor's office does not send a case over such trifles to the court. As a rule, there is something more, a more serious charge, but it is not sustained in the court, and the court chooses not to render an acquittal finding, for otherwise it might hurt the public prosecutor, inasmuch as he would have to answer for a groundless arraignment on criminal charges, for which the higher public prosecutors now are strictly demanding an accounting.

And here is an example of "pressure" of another sort.

One Sebrinsh, a former consultant of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers' legal department, while driving his private automobile, ran into a bicyclist, and caused him so much severe bodily harm that the latter died at the place of the

incident. Despite the committed crime's obviousness, the investigation in the case lasted over a year. Twice, and both times for fabricated reasons, it was discontinued. The manifest prejudice and unobjectiveness of the investigation, and the attempt to relieve the criminal of accountability at all costs, aroused the public's righteous outrage. A report, "The Incident at the 22d Kilometer Mark," in which the position of the republic's public prosecution establishment on this case was subjected to harsh criticism, appeared in the newspaper IZVESTIYA. And only after the USSR public prosecution establishment's intercession was Sebrinsh given a suspended sentence of 4 years of deprivation of freedom, with mandatory assignment to labor. However, even this sentence's execution was delayed by red tape for 6 months.

For support of the victim's children, the court decreed exaction from the convict of 1,426 rubles in a lump sum and 75 rubles monthly for each child. Sebrinsh deposited the designated sum in the court's account 5 months after the sentence was imposed. However, over 3 months more was required for this money to be released to the victim's family. Thus, for 2 years from the day of their father's death, the children, through the fault of the investigation and the court, received no funds for their support.

The reader is entitled to ask: What specific steps are being taken to speed up such situations? I can state with complete authority that not a single court official, who has committed a serious error in the administration of justice, will remain unpunished. Thus, one Kostruba, people's judge of the city of Grozny's Zavodskoy Rayon People's Court, and one Albakov, member of the Chechen-Ingush ASSR Supreme Court, have been removed from office and have incurred severe punishment, including that in accordance with the party line, for gross legal errors. I could cite other names and other specific examples. However, the point is not just in punishments. The main point is that a cause, which, in and of itself, excludes the right to err, must not be entrusted to people who cannot, in themselves, combine excellent professional training with civic courage, incorruptibility, and a keen sense of justice. I should like to stress, in this regard, that a CPSU Central Committee decree has demanded of all party committees, with the utmost firmness, the strengthening of the legal protection agencies' political leadership, and the institution of strict control over their activity. And the USSR Supreme Court Plenum that was held in December of last year has obliged the courts to put a stop to any attempts to interfere in the settling of specific court cases, from whomever they may originate. The plenum has also noted that, in stopping such instances, the courts are obliged to raise, before the appropriate state and public agencies, the question of bringing the officials who have committed such a violation to strict account.

Among court and public prosecution officials, one has occasion to hear that it is impermissible when newspaper correspondents meddle in an investigation or the hearing of a case in court. Indeed, if the case still is only being investigated, if a sentence has not been pronounced and entered into lawful effect, any outside interference, including that by press representatives, is impermissible, and there can be no other position here. However, this does

not mean at all that any kind of restrictions may be imposed regarding the presence in the court of press representatives, public leaders, or even the public at large under the conditions of a public and open court hearing. It is impermissible also to hinder the taking of notes in the course of a court proceeding, as well as to take away the notebooks and remove those making notes from the courtrooms, as still is sometimes done.

A few words about complaints. The examination of complaints in court cases is one of the basic work areas for courts at all levels. The proper and timely settling of complaints--this is nothing else but the establishment of social justice in practice.

Unfortunately, even in this matter all is not as one would like. In many courts, especially at the rayon level, the settling of complaints is delayed by red tape. At times, the attitude toward appeals of workers, including those appearing in person, is formalistic, indifferent, and marked by a desire to be rid of the appellant as quickly as possible.

I shall not cite examples. I only wish to stress again that not one court has a right to talk about its effective reorganization if even the slightest elements of formalism, a bureaucratic and unconcerned attitude toward people, and disregard for their rights and lawful interests have not been eliminated from its activity.

Formalism is harmful in any endeavor. But it is especially intolerable in the activity of the legal protection agencies. Just what is formalism in a court's work? It can cover up the incompleteness of a case's examination and the manifestation of prejudice, and, as an inevitable consequence, the pronouncing of an unlawful, groundless, and unjust sentence. And an unjust sentence--this is the conviction of an innocent person, the grossest violation of socialist legality. That is why the USSR Supreme Court Plenum has stressed that a court may pronounce a finding of guilt only for a charge that has been proven beyond doubt; that is, when all other interpretations of the case have been entirely ruled out.

It is important for a sentence to be based solely upon that evidence which has been directly acquired, examined, and evaluated by the court itself. In the process, all allegations of proscribed investigation methods and other violations of legality that, by a defendant's assertion, have compelled his self-incrimination or forced him to give false testimony must be verified in the most careful way.

If such instances of violations of legality are proved, the court must take immediate steps to bring the guilty officials to account.

The USSR Supreme Court Plenum also has pointed out to the courts their obligation to observe strictly the standards which guarantee the rights of all participants in a court hearing, to behave equally attentively toward their assertions and pleadings, to show proper tact in dealing with the public prosecutor, the defense attorney, the victim, the defendant, and other participants in a proceeding, and not to express their opinions concerning a case's substance or evidence being examined, directly or indirectly, before the settling of these matters in the conference room.

The attention of the courts is called again to the need for strict observance of the law's requirements concerning the individualizing of punishment, bearing in mind that it is not only retribution for a committed crime, but also has as its purpose the convict's correction and reeducation, and prevention of the committing of new crimes.

The reorganization, as it applies to the courts, means, first of all, the strictest observance of the laws when examining each case, complete implementation of the principles of openness and social justice, great exactingness toward oneself and every court worker, a most attentive attitude toward people appealing to the court, and conclusive elimination of defects and errors--in a word, such a work level as will contribute, in maximum degree, to a successful struggle against crime.

In conclusion, speaking of legality in justice's administration, I wish to express the following thought: Without the workers' active support, without their principled evaluation of all negative occurrences, and without their active participation in the struggle against crime, it is not within the capabilities of the legal protection agencies to solve all of the problems facing them.

Of course, having read this article, many readers may say: Look what things have come to--a USSR Supreme Court deputy chairman is criticizing the courts' work himself. Apparently, things are bad! And, although I have already spoken of this, I shall say again: The courts commit relatively few errors. A tremendous majority of the judges works exceptionally honestly and conscientiously, not sparing themselves, their personal time, or their resources. But the point is that precisely the judges, the judges first of all, have absolutely no right to err. Each of their errors costs both individual people and society as a whole too dearly.

COPYRIGHT: Izdatelstvo "Pravda", "Chelovek i zakon", 1987

12319

CSO: 1800/460

SOCIAL ISSUES

RUSSIAN MOTOR TRANSPORT MINISTRY ILLEGALITIES HIT

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Mar 87 p 2

[Article by V. Lysenko: "False Kilometers; Notes From the Meeting of the RSFSR Committee on People's Control"]

[Text] Unearned income within the system of motor vehicle transport... The people's controllers have selected the problem and address for mass investigation accurately. The signs of trouble in this sphere are continually going to various organizations and to the press. And many readers have probably themselves more than once been witnesses either to driver's overcharging passengers on routed taxis and buses, or to various kinds of extortion on the part of transport agency and technical service station personnel, or to the illegal sale of fuel. All of these are channels along which state monies flow as before into the pockets of motor transport wheeler-dealers.

It is no secret to anyone that extortion and mutual guarantees have grown to maturity in the soil of all kinds of falsification. The drivers split their real rubles with dispatchers, mechanics, column chiefs, line controllers--anyone who can "give", "get", "let through", "not notice", "protect", etc. They pay for a spare part which is short supply, for a new automobile, for an engine, for an assembly, for a profitable route.

The chain of crime often stretches from the automobile enterprises to the territorial associations, and sometimes even higher. Recently the system of the Ministry of Motor Transport was shaken by major court proceedings on bribery. Former Deputy Minister Volkov, Yugavtotrans Chief Engineer Starannikov and many others were found guilty. But the sound of the alarm, we might say, was not heard. As evidenced by an investigation of tens of associations, the generally high level of multifaceted fraud in the sector has practically not declined even after the issuance of the resolution by the CPSU Central Committee entitled "On Measures for Intensifying the Struggle Against Unearned Income".

Mark-ups remain the most insidious and oldest illness. The public controllers inspected four cargo truck enterprises within the Sevostinavtotrans Association. They found that over 40,000 tons of the cargo listed in the bills of lading had never been transported anywhere by anyone. The almost 450,000 ton-kilometers which also "beefed up" all the accounting indicators also did not exist. Almost the same volume of mark-ups of falsified ton-kilometers were recorded also at the Yaroslavl Cargo Truck Enterprise No 1. The passion for show served as the breeding ground for unearned income. For that cargo which was not transported the drivers received thousands of unearned rubles.

The participants in these deals are rewarded not only in wages, but also in bonuses. Here is one of the examples which was cited at the meeting of the Committee for People's Control. A driver of the Astrakhan motor column No 1204 Kalkov supposedly transported 5,000 tons of electrical equipment for the capital construction administration of the Astrakhan gorispolkom. For the mark-up runs he received 870 rubles in wages and a bonus for...saving fuel.

These benefits fall not only to the drivers. Skillful manipulation of the figures also helps the management to become wealthy. Recently, several hundred thousand ton-kilometers of cargo turnover were included in the monthly report of the Nalchikskiy Cargo Transport Production Association No 1. They were added in advance, for future activity. This "trick" allowed the enterprise to report on fulfilling the plan and to pay the managers, engineering-technical workers and personnel 8,000 rubles in premiums.

The situation is no better with passenger auto transport. A year-and-a half ago the RSFSR KNK [Committee for People's Control] already reviewed the question of its operation (see notes from the meeting entitled "On the Stilts of Mark-Ups" in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA dated 9 December 1985). At that time, the low level of regularity of bus traffic and the widespread practice of increasing it by means of mark-ups was particularly noted. The people's controllers found the same thing now in Astrakhan, Kabardino-Balkariya, Yaroslavl, and other places. It seems that in the passenger auto transport enterprises they see no other possibility of combatting chronic underfulfillment of the runs specified in the schedule except mark-ups. They have grown accustomed to them. And the premiums for regularity of traffic have in essence become an automatic bonus. Let us take, for example, the Nalchik Passenger Auto Transport Enterprise No 1. In several months, much reporting "padding" has accumulated here, measured in millions of passengers and tens of millions of passenger-kilometers. If we exclude the fictitious volumes, then the plan for transit turns out to be underfulfilled and, we must admit, that the bonuses in the sum of almost 19,000 rubles were paid illegally.

Deception gives rise to more deception. One cannot simply mark up loads and routes. How does one deal with the time which the automobiles spend on line? If this indicator is treated carelessly, then as a result of simple computations it will turn out that the vehicles do not drive, but zoom like rockets over thousands of kilometers of space. No, that is no good. The speed should not give away the falsification. So then the time is also added on. In one of the motor columns (No 1118, Murmanskavtotrans Association), 52 buses were checked. Of these, 39 of them showed a mark-up in operation on line by 80 hours.

To cover the traces of mark-ups means to remember also about gasoline. It has to go somewhere, too. Too great of an economy is suspicious. What a favorable ground for misappropriations! And so they take it and sell it as best they can. Fuel-lubricant materials distributor Tashina from Nalchik has over a thousand misappropriated liters of gasoline to her credit. In Astrakhan, high-grade fuel is issued to truck drivers instead of the specified A-76...There are very many such signals everywhere, and almost nowhere, as noted at the meeting of the Committee on People's Control, are the reasons for unrealistic excesses of fuel investigated.

A special topic is the so-called non-ticketed transit of passengers. The question is a most acute one. In reality, how can we combat against drivers and conductors pocketing monies? After all, the losses in income from this are evaluated at several tens of millions of rubles per year throughout the RSFSR Minavtotrans as a whole. The people's controllers have touched upon the roots of this mass transport outrage. In Yaroslavl, where last year 12 of the 18 city bus routes did not fulfill the plan for income, they conducted a thorough investigation. On the day of the investigation as compared with the same day in the previous week the receipts immediately jumped by 20 to 37 percent. On the city bus routes in Astrakhan during the period of control organized jointly with the workers of the OBKhSS [Department for Combatting Misappropriations of Socialist Property and Speculation], the proceeds increased by 18 percent, and on the taxi routes--by 10 percent. In a word, thievery is thriving.

Who must put an end to this? The direct responsibility for this, as we know, lies with the extensive departmental control-inspection apparatus. And there really are many inspections. It is no wonder that economic managers have coined the phrase "inspection terror". Except that this service does not strike any real terror into anyone. All the indications of merging of the inspection apparatus with the auto transport workers are clearly evident. For example, for a period of 6 months the inspectors of the Kabbalkavtotrans Association conducted inspections at cargo handling enterprises over 200 times, and found only 900 tons of mark-ups. This is a trifle. A single driver can add on much more.

In this same time, Yaroslavl inspectors found only 4,000 tons worth of mark-ups. As if they had begun to work more honestly. But we should not be hasty in our praise. The workers of the RSFSR Committee on People's Control discovered 10 times more fraud in a single enterprise, and not in 6 months, but in a month!

The control over "auto wanderers" is also sadly weak. These are the inter-city drivers who arbitrarily change their traffic routes in the necessary direction, not returning to the garage for long periods of time. In Nalchik for all the 147 inter-city bills of lading, delays of up to a month were recorded.

Often vehicles are used to deliver private cargo for long distances. This, obviously, is for the purpose of gain.

As the committee meeting acknowledged, motor transport enterprises are still far from having those conditions of intolerance when every conscious disruption or illegal action inevitably leads to punishment. The directives and measures for intensifying the struggle against unearned income are mere formalities. As a rule, they were developed without an honest analysis of the unhealthy situation, and therefore are declarative and nonspecific. Connivance instills hope in the swindler, absolves the money-grubber of responsibility, and gives a sense of brazen self assuredness to wheeler-dealers of all ilks--to all those who try to make their fortune at the expense of defrauding the state.

Let us together trace the story in which driver Maryash from Prokhladnetskiy Auto Transport Enterprise near Nalchik found himself. He was detained by the state auto inspection for work on line with a faulty speedometer. Moreover, the

inspection service confiscated tools for turning the speedometer back and fined him 10 rubles. And what was the reaction to this at the motor pool? It was rather unique. In a month, evidently as compensation for the fine, he was given a bonus of 20 rubles.

The reaction, as we have said, was a unique one. However, within the Minavto-trans system it was nevertheless characteristic. Sometimes it goes so far that certain drivers who have been found guilty of mark-ups and infractions of financial discipline are often proclaimed to be winners in socialist competitions, awarded certificates, and listed as shock workers of communist labor. It is as if the double standard were being legalized: one can be a swindler, and at the same time also a respected member of the collective. Unfortunately such an unfit practice of work with the cadres is typical for most of the auto transport enterprises which we checked.

It is typical also for the republic's Minavtotrans. In the opinion of the members of the Committee for People's Control, the ministry apparatus is taking a clearly passive, wait-and-see attitude in the struggle against unearned income. In the very same Kabardino-Balkariya in the past 2 years there have been 20 ministry workers, including 3 deputy ministers. Twice as many Moscow guests came to Yaroslavl. One can hardly suppose that they don't know or don't guess about the true state of affairs. Yet after their on-site visits there have been no beneficial changes. Maybe the accumulated material is being principally discussed at the collegium? No, here these questions are sooner shamefully hushed up rather than made more acute.

Here at the committee meeting are three ministry officials--First Deputy Minister A. K. Vasilyev, Main Passenger Administration Chief and collegium member G. P. Ivanovskiy, and Deputy Chief of the Main Cargo Transport Administration A. V. Shmitkov. They tried to soften the picture presented by the people's controllers, to assure us that order will be restored because effective measures are being taken.

What measures are these? G. P. Ivanovskiy promised that an automated system of dispatch control would be introduced. It would make on-line control more stringent. But they replied to him: this system has been talked about for 15 years. What has changed in the places where it exists? The news of another measure, also reported by the chief of the Main Passenger Administration, does not gladden us. This is the changeover in the next few years to the method of serving passengers without a fare box.

"But you announced this method also long ago."

"Yes, that's true, but there are many obstacles. We have to make agreements with the Ministry of Finance..."

First Deputy Minister A. K. Vasilyev gave a much more assured picture of the prospects for combatting unearned income. He spoke of changing over the sector to new conditions of economic management. This changes the situation. The gross indicators such as ton-kilometers and passenger turnover are completely eliminated. Now only income and profit are counted. The fulfillment of the plan for passenger transport is determined by the actual ruble deposited in the

bank. For cargo transport, the responsibility to the clients is increased. The fulfillment of contract responsibilities comes to the forefront.

The shifts predetermined by changes in the economic management mechanism may be successfully implemented. But, as the committee meeting noted, the transition to new conditions of economic management in and of itself does not guarantee against the negative occurrences which we have reviewed. To curtail unearned income in a single stroke through a government resolution is nothing more than self deception. If we do not change the position in the ministry and on site, if we do not raise the level of exactingness to the cadres, mark-ups and extortion will resume. Yet it is from this position that we must begin.

The committee punished the guilty parties, as should be, and established control over the implementation of the adopted resolution. As concerns the chief of the Main Passenger Administration G. P. Ivanovskiy, he was not only given a strict reprimand. It was taken into consideration that a year-and-a-half ago he was brought to responsibility by the committee for serious shortcomings in the organization of passenger transport, but did not draw the proper conclusions. Therefore, it was suggested to RSFSR Minister of Motor Transport Yu. S. Sukhin that he review the question of strengthening the management of the Main Passenger Administration.

12322

CSO: 1800/456

SOCIAL ISSUES

RSFSR BURIAL SERVICES INADEQUATE, BRIBES FREQUENT

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Mar 87 p 6

[Article by Yu. Orlik: "Will There Be Order 'Beyond the Fence'?"]

[Text] The article entitled "Beyond the Fence" (IZVESTIYA no 239, 1986) in which we discussed the organization of the burial service in Irkutsk and the extortion and bribery which has occurred at the city cemetery, evoked widespread reader response. Part of these letters were published (nos 255, 283). When he receives a good mail response to his material, an author usually experiences a feeling of satisfaction. This means he has touched upon an important topic. What he has written has touched the heart and forced the reader to take pen in hand. In this case, reading the responses was bitter and shameful, as if you too are guilty of something... The return addresses on the envelopes testify to the fact that the cemetery has become a place of bargaining and extortion, while funerals have turned into "a violation of the living and the dead" in other cities of the country as well. The readers demand that the local authorities and the communal management agencies bring about order "beyond the fence" and ward off from the cemeteries those who make their fortune off of human misery.

Our editorial staff showed these letters to RSFSR Housing and Municipal Services Deputy Minister I. V. Terekhov and asked him to answer the questions posed by the readers.

[Question] To begin the discussion, let us take 2 letters out of 300. The first gives a typical picture of a funeral. Before completing digging of the grave, the grave diggers stopped work and went for lunch, despite the pleas of the shaken relatives... The driver of the hearse, in turn, began to demand that they pay him for "standing time". "Only after they demanded and received money from us did the grave diggers return to work, and the driver stopped his extortion". (N. Kurdyumov, Leningrad). The second letter, Ivan Vasilyevich, is addressed directly to your ministry: "If we analyze in depth the reasons for the existing outrage going on in the cemeteries," writes B. Sher from Novokuznetsk in Kemerovo Oblast, "we will come to the conclusion that the fault here lies not with the swindlers, not with the diploma'd gravediggers who get rich off of human grief, but with the RSFSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services. It is specifically this ministry (together with the local authorities) which has created the conditions for the robbery (I can find no better word for it). The individual extortionist is but a consequence". Don't you agree?

[Answer] Obviously, we are at fault. This is a serious fault, because the misfortune is serious. Sometimes you get such letters that you want to drop everything, hop on the first plane, grab this manager or director by the scruff of the neck and say: "where are you looking, don't you see how they are making a mockery of people?" You want to remove this "official", to cast him out so that there will not even be a trace of him left... And if this were our only fault. There is such a concept as scientific intensive production. Well, our "production" is complaint intensive. The work of the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services is associated with life, with the everyday existence of almost every family, every person. If a residence is poorly repaired--we are at fault. For overcharging in hotels and disappearance of linens in the bath-laundry combines--we too are held responsible. And just take boiler rooms, water lines, sewers--how many just complaints there are here!...

I am outlining the list of the ministry's concerns--everyday, immediate concerns--not to justify the outrage (after all, you can't keep an eye on everything) which one can find at the cemeteries. We understand that the services rendered to a person in his hour of loss are associated with grief, with heartache, and with shock. There are special demands placed on this service. It is reasonable to ask: "so if you understand this, then why don't you bring about order?"

Let us consider this matter.

You wrote that the special buro in Irkutsk is located in a wood house of pre-revolutionary construction. Alas, this is a typical picture. Only 13.9 percent of the shops producing ritual objects are housed in specially built facilities with ventilation, running water and sewers. So you can imagine the conditions in which the people work.

We are experiencing a catastrophic shortage of equipment--excavators, compressors, ditch diggers, and fork lifts. Our equipment for the present day consists of one earth digging machine for two oblasts. The shovel remains the primary labor tool at the cemetery. The amounts of granite and marble allocated to us are paltry. We must make about 350,000 headstones a year. However, "Rosramor-granit" supplies us with enough natural stone to fill only 20,000 orders. And where there is a wait in line--there will be abuses...

I am convinced that if we really want to bring about order in the burial service, we must direct considerable funds and efforts toward this end. Otherwise, it will remain in the background of municipal services. The construction of ritual objects must be equated by its importance and urgency to the construction of maternity homes, schools, and residences. But here, it happens, that they are altogether forgotten in the development of general plans. Or they are carried over from one five-year plan to the next.

[Question] But it wasn't just yesterday that the "sorrowful service" came to its present state. Why is it that they have sounded the alarm only now?

[Answer] These topics were generally not discussed in the open press... As for alarm, it was sounded earlier. In 1976 the RSFSR Council of Ministers reviewed the question of improving burial services in the republic and developed

a corresponding program. Unfortunately, it was only partially implemented. In a number of cities, combines for producing funeral accessories were built, as well as facilities for civil mourning rites. Stores for specialized services appeared. But...provision was made for building 22 combines, but only 8 were built. Out of 29 facilities for mourning rites, only 6 were placed into operation, out of 12 crematories--only 1 in Sverdlovsk.

[Question] Wouldn't it be more accurate to say that the implementation of an important and necessary program was essentially undermined?

[Answer] We must admit this. The time has been lost, and it is difficult to make it up. Let us take only one point of the program--the construction of crematories. The entire civilized world builds them. Economists, urban planners and hygienists all agree on the fact that this must be done.

Of course, we must take into consideration a certain psychological resistance to new methods of burial. But we must also not overestimate the adherence to tradition, illuminated by centuries. In Moscow and Sverdlovsk, a third of all burials are performed through crematories, and in Leningrad--53 percent. The problem is not, as they sometimes try to represent, that people reject this method of burial. Rather, it is that in the RSFSR only the three cities which we have named have crematories. (For comparison: in the CSSR with 15 million residents there are 22 operating crematories; in the GDR with 17 million residents there are 55). In the other cities, their construction has not even begun, although the program of which we spoke provides for this. The project plans developed for Volgograd, Vladivostok, Irkutsk, Krasnodar, Kuybyshev, Krasnoyarsk, Murmansk, Novosibirsk, Rostov-on-Don and Sochi have now become outdated. And this has been the result of the time which has been lost.

[Question] Let us get back to the letters. "Why can't things be organized in such a way," asks V. Fedorova from Kaluga, "so that a certain sum (depending on the sort of funeral) is paid and all the cares--from receiving the death certificate to burial--are assumed by the [funeral home] workers? After all, this is done in other countries! Why is it that here in our hour of unconsolable grief we have no one to depend on?"

[Answer] Here too in 36 cities in Russia there is such a service. One needs only to call, and a representative of the funeral service (agent) will come to your home, take the order, and relieve you of excess worry. The services of these agents are widely used in Moscow oblast, where around 70 percent of the funerals are conducted with their help. Of course, there are still many shortcomings in this matter. Part of the population regards such help with distrust: how is it that someone else will pick out the wreaths, ribbons and flowers for me? They are afraid that they will be promised one thing, and given another... Only irreproachable and precise fulfillment of the order, a professional approach and tact can remove this apprehension. The funeral home agent must be provided with transport, supplied with catalogs, albums with color photographs of ritual accessories, headstones, etc. His wages should be set in direct accordance with how completely and promptly he fulfills the order and with the quality of the services.

[Question] Since you have brought up the question of wages, here is a letter on this topic. "We, the workers of the burial service," writes P. Bisharev from Khmel'nits'ka, "are paid very low wages. For example, an agent receives 75 rubles, a wreath and mourning band salesman receives 80, the cemetery keeper receives 80 and a groundsman receives 70. With such wages, all hope lies in progression. And it depends on the "increase in the volume of realized services." Do you understand what we are saying? All this is awful..."

[Answer] If we don't change the system of wages for funeral service workers, then such situations--which are against common sense--cannot be avoided. And the extortionist and money-grubber will not be chased away from the fence. After all, why is it that they feel so free? Why, it is because there aren't enough people. People don't go into this type of work: it is difficult both physically and morally. And the wages are low. In Moscow oblast for 100 cemeteries there should be 250 grave diggers, but there are only 63. And subsidiary workers, whose wages are 70 rubles a month, number one-tenth of the staff... Considering all this, the ministry has begun a review of the valuations and time standards for ritual services. Soon they will be submitted for ratification.

Moreover, much here depends on the local agencies, their expanse and initiative. After all, in Irkutsk after the criticism in IZVESTIYA they were able to chase the "moonlighters" away from the cemetery gates. That is because they stopped blindly adhering to outdated valuations, as they had before. They began to pay grave diggers significantly more. The customers agreed to these outlays. And here are the results: the cemeteries have a full staff of workers, orders are being fulfilled in time, and no one demeans you with brazen extortion...

[Question] Many readers write with indignation about the fact that ritual services are planned "from what has been achieved", and speak of the absurdity of using customary economic measures (profitability, profit) for evaluating the work of services engaged in seeing a person on his last journey.

[Answer] I agree. Funeral services are special. The criteria for evaluating the work of enterprises associated with rendering these services should also be special. However, there is nothing blasphemous about the very fact of planning the volumes of services. Merely by knowing this volume, it is possible to provide in the national economic plans for the material-technical provision of this type of activity, for the allocation of financial and raw material resources. We are speaking here of earth digging equipment, of hearses, of lumber materials, fabrics, marble and granite...

As concerns profit, over half of it (around 8 million rubles) goes toward the creation of economic incentive funds and for material reward of workers. The rest is directed through the budget toward improving cemeteries and developing enterprises in this sphere. Using the profits for any other purpose, as described in the newspaper, is nothing other than the wilfulness of local agencies. It must be decisively curtailed.

[Question] In conclusion to this discussion, here are two more excerpts from letters. "Many on whom matters depend," writes G. Gubernatorov from Odessa oblast, "simply do not know the worries and degradation associated with funerals. Everything is done for them. Yet the little man must bear a double grief: an excessively heavy coffin made of raw wood slab, a beat-up hearse, a formless hole instead of a grave... And the money-grubbers who tear at both the soul and the

pockets". And another letter: "I personally am convinced that the newspaper report will not bring any result," notes G. Yushkov from Sverdlovsk. Well, after the criticism they will do a cover-up in Irkutsk. But what about the other cities?..."

[Answer] Unfortunately, G. Yushkov has a basis for such a conclusion and we specifically have spoken of this. Nevertheless, I do not share his skepticism. I can name cities where the funeral service is organized fairly well--Ivanovo, Voronezh, Pskov, Yaroslavl, Kostroma, Kursk... Here the city authorities and workers of municipal agencies have done much to help a person in his grief. Those on whom matters depend here know the difficulties of funerals and try to ease them as much as they can. But, alas, this list of cities is short.

The letters received by IZVESTIYA once again convince us of the fact that the time has come to take a new look at the entire complex of ritual services. We need long-term developments, large capital investments, structural changes, and a radical improvement in the entire system of funeral services. Such proposals are currently being worked out.

12322

CSO: 1800/456

SOCIAL ISSUES

INVESTIGATION CLEARS ARMENIAN MVD MINISTER OF CORRUPTION CHARGES

PM030855 [Editorial Report] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian on 1 April 1987 carries on page 10 a 2,000-word Yerevan-dated report entitled "Applause in the Minister's Office" by special correspondents Gennadiy Bocharov and Zoriy Balayan. The report describes an investigation into the activities of Armenian MVD Minister A. Shaginyan carried out in the latter part of February by a USSR MVD commission sent from Moscow. Shaginyan had been accused in an anonymous letter of a whole host of serious crimes, including taking bribes in exchange for appointments, deliberate distortion of returns, and concealment of crimes. The commission found not only that he was innocent on all counts but that the ministry's work had actually improved. The minister asked the commission to inform the ministry staff of its findings and summoned 56 leading members of the staff to his office. He asked them for a vote of confidence, taking the risk that the anonymous letter-writer or others with grudges might be among them and firmly promising that if even one-third of the votes were cast against, he would resign. This turn of events was unexpected and the commission chief felt he had to clear the matter with Moscow, which gave its assent. The secret ballot--"a right of our revolutionary times," in the minister's own words--was unanimously in his favor.

The authors stress that this was the "victory of an honest man. He triumphed by defending his own dignity so as to combat the shabby victories of anonymous letter-writers." In the author's words: "The beginning of the story was ordinary. But its conclusion was exceptional. Yesterday it would have been impossible. Today it is a reality."

/9738

CSO: 1830/460

SOCIAL ISSUES

BRIEFS

WOMAN SETS SELF AFIRE IN TAJIKISTAN--The criminal investigation involving K. Zaripov, a resident of the village of Kuchabobi in Gissarskiy Rayon who systematically humiliated and mocked his wife, is nearing completion. Driven to a state of despair, Anor Zaripova, the mother of four children, doused herself with solar oil and ignited it. She was taken to a hospital in serious condition. [TadzhikTA report: "In the Tajik SSR Prosecutor's Office"] [Text] [Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 25 Apr 87 p 3]

CSO: 1830/469

REGIONAL ISSUES

MILWAUKEE-KIEV RADIOBRIDGE FEATURES DISCUSSION ON CHERNOBYL

LD261842 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1631 GMT on 25 March 1987 carries a 54-minute radio bridge in which Maksim Tkachenko introduces the second link-up between Milwaukee and a Soviet city. The first, 4 months ago, was with Vilnius. This one is with Kiev. The Milwaukee side of the radiobridge is organized by WWTI radio station.

Sergey Grachev conducts the program in Kiev where there are 12 adults and 4 schoolchildren in the studio. In brief interviews before the link-up they express their hopes for the program.

The Milwaukee hosts are named as (Bob Brightman) and (Jean Miller); the Kiev hosts name themselves as (Mikhail Taratuto) representing Moscow radio, and Dmitriy Markov representing Kiev Radio. The Kiev participants include a doctor, a lawyer, a teacher, an engineer, a Baptist pastor, a journalist, a worker from Chernobyl AES, a painter and decorator. The U.S. participants introduce themselves in English with superimposed Russian translation.

(Taratuto) suggests as the first question for discussion: "What do we want for our children?" A U.S. participant wants his children to share his values. A Soviet teacher says that everything is given to Soviet children and she would like them to value this. A U.S. mother asks how Soviet women cope with both a career and a family. A Soviet mother tells of the facilities provided but says that it leaves little spare time for women. In reply to a Soviet question the U.S. side tells of Parent-Teacher Associations in the United States.

(Brightman) goes on to say: "We have a question from (Charles Sykes), editor of MILWAUKEE MAGAZINE. We have been talking about children and the main question which interests parents is the health of children. I would like to know what parents think about problems connected with the health of children as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl AES."

[Markov] "Doctor (Shandala) will answer this question."

[(Shandala)] "A long time before this misfortune which occurred in Chernobyl, we studied the influence of nuclear power stations on the environment in general. One must first of all be clear that nuclear

power generation in general is a cleaner way to produce energy than any other method, even than thermal stations. Thermal power stations have a much more negative influence on the environment; they pollute the air and are deleterious to living conditions and people's health."

[Markov] Doctor (Shandala), we shall return to environmental questions, but it would be good if you could now give a specific answer to the question: What effect did the Chernobyl tragedy have on the health of Kiev children, if it had any effect at all?"

[(Shandala)] "If one is to speak about the city of Kiev, specifically, there was virtually no effect on the state of health of the population at all, including children's health, in connection with the Chernobyl accident. I am saying this most responsibly as I have been involved with these questions since the very first days after the accident and I am still involved. We studied tens of thousands of children and the results of this study show that the effect--a certain additional increase in the background radiation--which occurred as a result of the accident cannot have an effect on the state of health. I am speaking about the city of Kiev, of course. Many children in the populated areas which were located in the evacuation zone, children evacuated from the zone of the Chernobyl AES were studied. Also studied were women who were pregnant at the time. They have all given birth to healthy children. All of these children--those who were there during the accident and those who were born after it--are now the subjects of a clinical study and their state of health is being constantly checked. We have not encountered any alarming phenomena, but we shall continue these observations."

[(Brightman)] "We have another follow-up question."

[U.S. participant] "My name is Sonia. What psychological effect has this accident had on children?"

[(Shandala)] "The accident had a much greater psychological effect on adults. We observed certain elements of radiophobia, including in Kiev where there were no objective grounds for this. A certain proportion of the people limited their intake of milk, for example, or of fresh vegetables, considering that they might be contaminated with radioactive materials even though this had been very carefully monitored before things got into the shops or markets. And these restrictions, these distortions in the diet, in a number of cases even had a negative effect on the state of people's health. This was by no means connected with radiation but with the psychological effect which this accident caused."

A Soviet schoolgirl asks what music U.S. schoolchildren like.

A Soviet Baptist pastor asks about the harmful effect of U.S. sex and violence programs on U.S. children. U.S. participants say this is an ongoing controversy. They ask if the problem exists in the USSR. The editor of a Kiev newspaper says: "Television, newspapers and magazines

appeal in their programs to everything that is best in a child." (Taratuto) interjects: "I think that our television has been a bit overzealous on this question. No, I am not in favor of sex and violence on television, but in my opinion we have for too long made our programs totally sterile, and to a large extent we have not been preparing our children for a more adult and more real life. And, probably for adults, too, this also seemed rather schematic. Perhaps we have gone too far here."

[Markov] "I quite agree with you. I shall allow myself to say that perhaps your remark is part of a wider problem. By tradition and for historical reasons it has transpired that most school teachers are women. And therefore there is a certain femilization of the upcoming generation taking place." A Soviet teacher taking part agrees with this to a certain extent.

U.S. participants agree that U.S. education is more concerned with the individual than with society as a whole. A U.S. participant asks why so few Soviet leaders are women. He is told that the president of the Ukraine is a woman. Tatyana Bykova, a teacher, has this to say on the subject: "The problem is that too much responsibility is being placed on women everywhere in all spheres and they occupy a very active position everywhere including among the leadership. Personally, I do not think that a woman must necessarily be a top leader. I prefer to submit to men. It is in their nature; they are calmer and less emotional. I was in the top leadership for 2 years and gave it up at my own request. I understood that in general it was not for women. I ceased to be a woman; various male characteristics started to appear."

Another Soviet woman notes that by the time a woman has done a day's work plus the housework she has no spare time.

U.S. participants pursue the question of why there are few male teachers and are told that men could earn more as manual workers but that salaries are now being increased and more men might join the profession.

A Soviet schoolgirl asks about the leisure pursuits of U.S. children. The following discussion reveals that Soviet children read U.S. authors but U.S. children know very little about Soviet culture.

As the program draws to a close, the participants are asked to name briefly what they think are the main problems facing their countries. From the U.S. side the replies concern specific U.S. domestic problems and from the Soviet side general desires for the good of mankind.

Markov asks the participants whether the link-up has improved mutual understanding. They all agree that it has and think that more such programs would be a good idea. Markov expresses a wish for better relations between the United States and USSR.

After the end of the link-up Maksim Tkachenko discusses it with (Taratuto) who says that it was much more friendly than the previous link-up with Vilnius which had been rather confrontational. This was caused on the U.S. side, by their feeling of innate superiority and fear and ignorance of the Soviet system. "As far as we are concerned, it is a rather different matter. It seems to me that the problem here is that we are just learning publicly to admit our shortcomings and to talk about our problems."

After the link-up Grachev interviews Soviet participants who told how the link-up helped them to understand Americans. They mention other questions they would like to have asked.

(Taratuto) then discusses the value of radiobridges. "What is a radio-bridge? It is the simplest and most democratic method of drawing many millions of people into the dialogue. For example, the potential audience of the first program which is now carrying this broadcast is about 200 million."

[Tkachenko] "But here we come up against the problem that the United States has no nationwide broadcasting but just several thousand small regional radio stations, and so in the United States the audience is limited."

[(Taratuto)] "Yes, of course, it is considerably smaller than our audience. But this is only the start and we have already received a whole range of proposals from other stations and other towns to continue these meetings and these radiobridges. Interest in this is growing unusually rapidly. I think the main reason for this is our very active external and internal policy of late."

/9604

CSO: 1800/548

REGIONAL ISSUES

ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR SEEN AS CAUSE OF SARGOZAN DAM FAILURE

Preventive Work Unorganized

LD171316 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] The mudflow which developed yesterday as a result of torrential rains has destroyed the dam at the Sargozan reservoir in Kulyab Oblast. As it swept through a vast ravine, the water and mud avalanche bore down on the village of Zargozan. It swept away more than 50 houses, a livestock breeding and poultry farm, bridges, and a section of the railway line, and communications have been interrupted. A hundred hectares of grain crops were washed away. There are human casualties. Essential aid is being provided to the stricken, and a commission to eliminate the consequences of the disaster has been set up.

Our correspondent invited Georgiy Vadimovich Kashlakov, chairman of the Republican Antiflood Committee to the microphone:

[Kashlakov] Heavy rain and snowfalls in many regions of the republic have led to the destruction of houses in Dangarinskiy Rayon--nearly 30 families are homeless. Mud flows have caused serious damage in Leningradskiy Rayon and in Parkharskiy Rayon in Kulyab Oblast. There are ominous landslides. In this connection, preventative measures have been taken to reduce damage linked to high water levels. Information on every development which threatens to interrupt normal economic activity or the life of the people is quickly sent to the Council of Ministers, where a 24-hour watch has also been set up and urgent decisions are made.

[Correspondent] What difficulties are being encountered today?

[Kashlakov] Unfortunately, we are not working systematically to protect buildings and constructions from mud flows and landslides, since there is no organization which can work in a purposeful manner on this as there is, say, in the Kazakh SSR--the Alma-Ata rural protection/defense.

[Correspondent] And on whom does setting up such a facility depend?

[Kashlakov] That's the prerogative of union bodies. Scientists at Moscow State University and Gosstroy have been putting the question of setting up such a facility for many years now but so far the question has not been solved.

Reservoir Construction Investigated

PM231159 Moscow SELSKSYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Mar 87 p 4

[Report by TASS correspondent G. Gridneva: "The Epicenter of Anguish and Courage; Kulyab Oblast Is Overcoming the Consequences of the Natural Disaster"]

[Excerpts] Dangara (Kulyab Oblast), 19 Mar--Sargazon. This small mountain hamlet, which used to gladden the eye with the greenery of its spring orchards, has been reduced to ruins this year by the rampaging of a waterborne disaster. And only the rows of tents and mobile caravans and the smoke from the outdoor fires attest to the continuing life here.

As has already been reported, a critical situation has taken shape in a number of rayons of Kulyab Oblast as a result of the heavy rainfall, mountain landslides, and landslides. Over 1,000 houses and sociocultural and health establishments have been destroyed. The material damage caused by the raging elements to many sovkhozes and kolkhozes runs to millions of rubles. But the most terrible loss has been dozens of human lives.

The tragedy in Sargazon has become a serious test of courage and has fully illumined human characters. Witnesses cite many examples of selfless actions by the majority of their fellow countrymen. Forgetting themselves, many people helped to save women and children and took orphaned children into their own homes. But other instances were also cited: When one healthy young man took a whole caravan for himself and his wife and only gave it up to a family with many children after the intervention of the rural Soviet chairman.

And the main thing which is now perturbing everyone not only in Sargazon but also a long way off: How did it happen that the dam failed to withstand the onslaught of the water? Of course no one could predict the power of the rampaging elements. But the people who by virtue of their office are responsible for this work sector could not fail to be aware that the reservoir had filled and was threatening to cause a disaster or that the mountain torrents were overflowing.

The competent organs are undertaking a prompt investigation into the reasons why the dam burst and into the reservoir construction's compliance with the plan. But regardless of its outcome the Sargazon tragedy should be a lesson to the economic leaders of the rayon and oblast.

Earlier Fears Highlighted

PM200851 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

["On the Spot" report by correspondent O. Latifi: "Dam Breached..."]

[Excerpts] Tajik SSR--As PRAVDA has already reported, water has breached the Sargazon Reservoir dam and crashed down on the village of the same name.

In the light of the Sargazon tragedy I think it would be appropriate to give just a brief account of the problems which have been worrying the Tajik public for a long time. Is the construction of the Ziddinskoye Reservoir a good idea? The project has not been very well publicized. If it is carried out millions of cubic meters of water will be suspended above the republic's capital like the Sword of Damocles. And it is an area where earthquakes reach point 9 on the scale. At a recent Dushanbe PRAVDA correspondents' center and Tajik Academy of Sciences Presidium "round table" the scientists talked anxiously for the first time about the high dam on the Vakhsh. The point is that the reservoir is an additional source of the area's increasing seismicity. The Nurek Dam was planned on the basis of data used for hydroelectric power stations in plains. But in the steppes and in the mountains the same earthquake in terms of intensity can have different consequences. Worries were voiced about the 330-meter Togunskaya GES Dam by... seismologists. And you have to listen to them. Nothing must be constructed in the mountains without their go-ahead.

As in the past, the latest series of downpours has revealed the extremely poor quality of plans for the construction of highways, bridges, and housing, social, cultural, and consumer facilities, and economic building in villages. On the entire stretch of the highway from the Chormazak Pass to Dangara there are signs of shoddy workmanship: subsidence, holes, landslides. Mountains and hills in which highways have been incompetently cut are crumbling and disintegrating.

At midday, by which time I was already returning from Dangara, the highway was more congested than ever, because of avalanches and because of vehicles carrying goods to Sargazon. Caravans and tents. Mobile stores hastening along. The shock of the first day is passing. Power and communications are being restored. Field kitchens have started operating and the area is being cleaned up.

Of course, the tragedy will leave scars in hearts and in the memory. It is important that it should be a lesson. After all, the calamity has revealed both errors and irresponsibility.

/9738
1830/459

END

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

July 24, 1987